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CONFIDENTIAL.

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PART 18.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

AFFAIRS OF MOROCCO.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Affairs of Morocco.

PART 18.

No. 1.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received July* 2.)

(No. 43.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, July* 2. 1898.

GLOBE Venture Case.

At the conclusion of the trial the prisoners were found guilty. The sentence on Grey and the interpreter was imprisonment for four calendar months, on the two sailors imprisonment for three weeks. All the prisoners will be treated as misdemeanants of the first class.

No. 2.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received July* 4.)

(No. 88.)
My Lord, *Tangier, June* 25, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 86 of the 17th instant, I have the honour to transmit copy of a despatch from Acting Vice-Consul D. Reid to Mr. Consul Maclean, reporting the arrest of another British semsar by a provincial Governor. These cases are becoming so frequent, and unless promptly checked will cause so much injury to British interests, that I consider very serious notice should be taken of them unless the Moorish Government give speedy and ample satisfaction. I have addressed a note to the Grand Vizier on this last case, of which I have the honour to transmit a copy; and unless his Excellency gives a satisfactory reply to this and other representations on similar cases, I would suggest that some measures should be taken to impress on the Moorish Government the necessity of duly observing Treaty stipulations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

Acting Vice-Consul Reid to Consul Maclean.

Sir, *Saffi, June* 18, 1898.

I REGRET to have to inform you of the arrest of another British semsar by the Moorish authorities. Late yesterday afternoon Mr. William Whitmore reported to me that a courier had come in bringing intelligence of the seizure of his semsar, Hadj Ali-

ben-Mohamed Amrany Saidy, by the Sheikh Smaine-ben-Ali-ben-Ghundor Amrany and his brother Abbas, who had with them a band of horse and foot.

The semsar was taken off to the Kaïd Abass-bil-Marofy-el-Amrany (the Kaïd recently complained of), and his house and property were plundered.

I immediately wrote to the Kaïd of Saffi informing him of the occurrence, and demanding the semsar's release. I informed him that this was the second British semsar recently taken, and that it was entirely contrary to Treaty, and that I held the Moorish Government responsible for all loss sustained by this semsar and Messrs. Whitmore and Co. He furnished me with a letter to Kaïd Abass, who is in Morocco city, and another to his Khalifa at his house; these were separately forwarded, and I shall advise you of the result on receipt of the replies. Mr. Whitmore informs me that this semsar is largely indebted to him personally in actual cash and as security for other men working with him, and that they have conjointly a very large amount of grain just reaped on the semsar's lands.

Mr. Whitmore has gone out this morning to the scene of the arrest, and with him Government adools, to write down evidence of the property plundered.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DOUGLAS REID.

Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

Sir A. Nicolson to Cid Hamed-ben-Moussa.

(After compliments.) *Tangier, June* 25, 1898.

IT is with much regret that I have to report to your Excellency another case of the arrest of a British semsar by Moorish authorities. The semsar in question is named Hadj Ali-ben-Mohamed Amrany Saidy, and he was arrested by the Sheikh Smaine-ben-Ali-ben-Ghundor Amrany and his brother Abbas, who had with them a band of horse and foot. The semsar was taken off to the house of the Kaïd Abass-bil-Marofy-el-Amrany, and his house and property were plundered.

These continued violations of the rights and privileges enjoyed by British-protected persons under Treaty cannot be tolerated, and I regret to have to state that no attention has been paid by the Moorish Government to the several similar cases which I have recently brought to their notice. If provincial authorities are permitted to commit these serious breaches of Treaty stipulations with impunity there will be no safety for British-protected persons, and the interests of British subjects will most severely suffer.

I request in the present case the immediate release of the semsar, the payment to him of an indemnity for his losses, as well as the severe punishment of all those who were concerned in his arrest.

I have further to request from your Excellency speedy and satisfactory replies to my notes regarding the arrests of other semsars and mohalats; otherwise I shall have to place the matter in the hands of my Government, who, your Excellency may be sure, will not lightly regard these continued injuries inflicted on persons enjoying their protection, and these frequent violations of Treaty stipulations, and may you rest, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 3.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 65.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 7, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 88 of the 25th ultimo respecting the arrest of another British semsar by a Provincial Governor in Morocco.

The note which you have addressed to the Grand Vizier on the subject is approved.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 4.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 8.)

(No. 44.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, July* 8, 1898.

REFERRING to your Lordship's telegram No. 27, I have dispatched from here on the 6th instant to your Lordship a fresh warrant with depositions.

No. 5.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 90.)
My Lord, *Tangier, July* 2, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to report that the French and German Ministers returned here yesterday from their missions to the Court of the Sultan.

I hear, privately, that the French Minister left Morocco city somewhat displeased with the results of his visit, which does not appear to have improved the relations between the French Legation and the Moorish Government. There are conflicting reports as to the demands which the French Minister made of the Moorish Government, but my information leads me to believe that no serious project or proposal was put forward. The cause of the discontent of M. de Monbel is attributed by the Grand Vizier to the measures which the Moorish Government have taken on the Riff coast against the Bocoyans, and both parties are dissatisfied with the consequences of the Sultan's expedition against that tribe.

The French Legation is displeased that any chastisement was inflicted on men to whom, apparently, some promise of immunity from punishment had been made; while the Moorish Government is dissatisfied at the French Legation according asylum and protection to a considerable number of fugitive Bocoyans, as reported in my despatch No. 87 of the 17th ultimo.

The German Minister, on the other hand, made, I am informed, a very favourable impression on the Sultan and his Ministers; and succeeded in obtaining a settlement of many outstanding German claims.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 6.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 91.)
My Lord, *Tangier, July* 2, 1898.

THE trial of the "Tourmaline" prisoners recommenced on the 30th ultimo, and as the witnesses from Antwerp, who were present at the shipment of arms and ammunition at that port, had arrived, as well as the three witnesses from the Sûs who had assisted at the landing of the arms at Arksis, the case for the prosecution was concluded yesterday afternoon. The defence called no witnesses, and the Chief Justice found all the prisoners guilty of the offences of which they had been charged.

Mr. Grey and the interpreter Sabbah were sentenced to four months' imprisonment, and the two sailors, Last and De Reya, to three weeks' imprisonment; all of them to be treated as first-class misdemeanants. The time during which they had been already in detention was taken into consideration in allotting the sentences.

I propose to make arrangements, if possible, that the prisoners should serve their sentences in Gibraltar, as the prison arrangements at Tangier are not suitable for the detention of so many prisoners at one time.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 6 A.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 92.)

My Lord, *Tangier, July 3, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith certified copy of the sworn information on which my warrant of the 13th June was issued. This information was based on a statement made by the captain of the "Hassanie," and of which I also beg leave to transmit a certified copy.* When the warrant for riot and assault was required in London the statement of the captain was the only available evidence, as the "Hassanie" herself was at that time absent from Tangier, and other witnesses had not yet arrived in this town. The statement of Captain Siebert was not on oath, as, at the time he made it, he declined to be sworn, except before his own authorities; and I may add that, even at the recent trial before the Chief Justice, he also made difficulties as to taking an oath in a foreign Court, and the German Chargé d'Affaires, Prince Reuss, had to obtain authority by telegraph from Berlin to allow him to do so. I am advised that the statement of the captain gives ample evidence both of a riotous assembly and of an assault.

In regard to Major Spilsbury's presence on the "Tourmaline" on the occasion I have no direct evidence, but I beg leave to transmit two original letters from Major Spilsbury which are in my possession.* I also beg leave to return the original letter of the Globe Venture Syndicate to your Lordship's Office, and, if the original of the inclosure therein could be obtained by subpœna or otherwise and the signature of Major Spilsbury be proved, it would, I am advised, afford ample evidence connecting him with the riot.

I am obtaining some sworn depositions from witnesses who are now in Tangier as to what occurred on shore between the Sûs natives, the Sultan's troops, and the boats of the "Hassanie," and also some depositions from people on the "Hassanie" as to the firing and threatening to fire on the part of the "Tourmaline." These depositions I will forward to your Lordship at the earliest opportunity, accompanied by a fresh warrant, in case any objection be raised as to the previous warrant having been dated before these depositions were taken.

I am advised that the depositions of witnesses in the recent trial before the Chief Justice of Gibraltar would possibly not be accepted as evidence by the Chief Magistrate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

P.S.—With reference to the last paragraph, I beg leave to inclose a certified copy of Captain Siebert's deposition at his trial,* in case the view expressed therein is a mistaken one.

A. N.

Inclosure in No. 6 A.

Mr. Madden's Sworn Information.

In Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Court for Morocco, held at Tangier.—Criminal Jurisdiction.

Monday, June 13, 1898.

The Attorney-General of Gibraltar, Complainant, A. Gybbon Spilsbury, Defendant.

THE information of Archibald Maclean Madden, of the British Consulate, Tangier, who saith, on his oath, that he hath just cause to believe and suspect, and doth believe and suspect, that A. Gybbon Spilsbury, of 37, Abbey Road, St. John's Wood, London, did, with others, to the number of three or more, on or about the

* Not printed.

13th day of January, 1898, in the steam-ship "Tourmaline," on the coast of Sûs, within the territorial waters of the Empire of Morocco, unlawfully and riotously assemble and riotously make an assault upon certain soldiers of the Sultan of Morocco by firing, and threatening to fire, on the Sultan's ship, named the "Hassanie," and on a boat belonging thereto, at the time manned by such soldiers, and the said deponent binds himself to attend at the Consular Court on the trial to give evidence against the said A. Gybbon Spilsbury for the said offence, or otherwise to forfeit to the Crown the sum of 20*l.*

(Signed) ARCHIBALD M. MADDEN.

Taken before me, this 13th day of June, in the year 1898.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON,
Her Majesty's Consul-General.

I, Archibald Maclean Madden, Acting British Consul in Tangier, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the information sworn by me on the 13th day of June, 1898.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Tangier, this 3rd day of July, 1898.

(L.S.) (Signed) ARCHIBALD MACLEAN MADDEN,
Acting British Consul.

I, Arthur Nicolson, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Morocco, hereby certify that the above signature is the siguature of Archibald Maclean Madden, Acting British Consul in Tangier.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Tangier, this 3rd day of July, 1898.

(L.S.) (Signed) ARTHUR NICOLSON,
Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

No. 6 B.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 9.)

(No. 93.)

My Lord, *Tangier, July 3, 1898.*

THE French Minister called on me this morning and gave me his impressions of the Court, which he had not visited for three years. He found, he told me, that the Grand Vizier was practically Sultan, and had acquired apparently a stable position. This he had accomplished by closing all avenues to the Sultan except to his own creatures, and by concentrating all affairs, even the most trivial, into his own hands. The Sultan, he considered, was more apathetic and took a lesser interest in affairs than when he was three years younger, and though his physical health appeared good, he was more silent and reserved than before. M. de Monbel noticed a slight, but significant innovation in the ceremonial at private audiences with the Sultan. The Grand Vizier now obtains permission from his master to sit during these interviews instead of standing, as was heretofore the invariable custom.

M. de Monbel was impressed by the increased aversion at Court from all reforms or improved facilities of intercourse with the outside world. The Grand Vizier, he thinks, is not blind to the advantages which might be derived from lifting the barriers which at present exist, or to the evils which the present condition of affairs carries with it, but he would lose position among his *entourage* and satellites if he showed any disposition to take any measures of a progressive character. The avowed object of the Chief Adviser of the Grand Vizier, the Minister of Finance, is, M. de Monbel said, to place as many difficulties as possible in the way of foreign commerce, and to throw back the country, if possible, into the condition when foreign traders were admitted on sufferance, and Morocco sufficed for herself.

M. de Monbel added that it was clear to him how hopeless would be the task of suggesting any projects of material development and improvement; and he could assure me he had limited his efforts to obtaining a settlement of some pressing French

claims. All the schemes with which he had been credited in the press were, he said, pure imagination.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 7.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received July* 11.)

(No. 45.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, July* 11, 1898.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 58:

A report from Mr. Vice-Consul Macleod states that letters have been received from Figuig by the Governor-General of Fez stating that a collision has taken place between the French troops and the Moorish tribes near Figuig. The attacking party is said to have been the French.

No. 8.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received July* 18.)

(No. 94.)
My Lord, *Tangier, July* 5, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 86 of the 17th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit translation of a note which I have received from the Grand Vizier relative to the arrest of a British semsar by Kaïd Shteewi. The reply of his Excellency is not explicit on the point of the liberation of the semsar and of the two mohalats, and I am sending a copy of his note to Her Majesty's Consul at Dar-el-Beida, with a request that I should be informed whether the men have been released. Should this not be the case, I will address a further communication to the Grand Vizier, and I think it would then be desirable, in addition to a request that the offending Governor be punished, to demand a compensation for the detention of these men in violation of Treaty stipulations.

The Grand Vizier has not had time yet to reply to my later note in regard to the seizure of another semsar, and it seems to me that both these cases should be treated as very serious matters, in order to prevent other Kaïds from following the example of those against whom complaints are made in the present instances.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Cid Hamed-ben-Moussa to Sir A. Nicolson.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) 2 *Safar*, 1316 (*June* 22, 1898).

YOUR letter has reached, oh friend, stating that on the 11th June Kaïd Shteewi-el-Abdi, with a party of his men, attacked the house of Mohammed-ben-el-Hadj, Mokhtar-el-Hasseeni, a British semsar, and seized him and his brother, a youth, and the Mokhalateen Mohammed-ben-el-Hadj, Mokhtar, and Hadj-el-Hussen-ben-Zeeli, Shiaduir, and took their property. We regret, oh friend, this action of this Kaïd, and we note what you state, and that you impress upon us, the release of the said prisoners. We are aware of it, after bringing it to the knowledge of our Shereefian Lord. He has ordered that I should answer you, oh friend, that he (compliments) does not agree to such things, nor does he approve them, and that immediately he received this information, he greatly regretted it, and appointed trusty oomana and notaries and chief men from Court to investigate the affair, the fullest and most satisfactory investigation, so that the facts may be brought to light, and the matter will then be dealt with as is necessitated for the continuance of sincere amity between the two friendly nations.

May you continue, &c.
(Signed) HAMED-BEN-MOUSSA-BEN-HAMED.

No. 9.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received July* 12.)

(No. 95.)
My Lord, *Tangier, July* 6, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copies of statements which I have received from Mr. Grey and the other three prisoners from the "Tourmaline," in regard to the ill-treatment which they suffered at the hands of Kaïd Gilooly. These statements show more serious ill-treatment than former information had led me to believe, and it would appear that the prisoners were chained, in any case at night, from the 19th January to the 11th February, and on one or two occasions they appear to have been beaten and kicked.

I propose to communicate translations of these statements to the Grand Vizier, and I should be glad to be informed what reparation your Lordship would desire me to demand.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Statement of Mr. Grey regarding Cruelty by Moorish Officials.

AT the request of his Excellency Sir Arthur Nicolson, K.C.I.E., C.M.G., &c., Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Morocco, I have to report as follows concerning my treatment during my period of captivity among the Moors:—

On the 17th January last, I was in company with M. A. C. Beyerle, a German subject, attacked by the Sultan's troops under Kaïd Giluli, and was pursued for nearly an hour by his cavalry, under a continuous fire of bullets.

On the 18th our hiding-place among the mountains near Arksis was discovered by the troops, who surrounded the house at night-time and seized us. We were searched, and loaded rifles being pointed at our heads, we were deprived of every article we possessed except the clothes we stood up in. These included, as far as I am concerned, money, a watch and chain, spectacles, some invaluable photographic negatives, &c.; a gold signet ring being difficult to draw off my finger, one of the men drew a dagger knife with the object of cutting off my finger, but by wetting the same I managed to draw off the ring.

Marching through the night, under escort, we reached Kaïd Giluli's camp the following morning, meeting Last, de Reya, and Sabbah on the way, also prisoners. On being brought before Kaïd Giluli I complained of such treatment, and demanded to be put on board the Shereefian steamer "Hassani," and taken to Mogador immediately, in accordance with Treaties. The Kaïd replied that he knew nothing of Treaties, and said we were his prisoners until he heard from the Sultan. We were accordingly removed to a small tent, about 8 feet by 6 feet, and there chained by the neck or feet to a native prisoner. A small grass mat was given us to put on the ground; covering we had none, and stones were our pillows. These conditions continued until our arrival at Tisnit on the 5th February, except that negroes and other native prisoners were brought in and shackled to us until there was not space enough for another man to be got into the tent.

At Tlata all the prisoners, Christian, Jew, and Moslem, were confined in a mud hut; a prisoner was brought in badly wounded with a dagger, and the blood from his wounds flowed in a stream upon the floor upon which we lay. His head was cut off the next day.

In the tent we were not allowed to stand upright, but sit or lie down; the door, even on the hottest day, was kept closed, except when drawn aside to enable tribesmen to jeer at us and curse us in our chains. The tribes all along the route in Sûs were called upon to curse us and spit upon us, and on several occasions the caravan was stopped for this purpose, and diverted from the proper route to pass through villages to show the inhabitants how the Sultan treated Christians "who went to Arksis without his permission." We wore the same clothes until the 16th February, when we received a change from Vice-Consul Johnston at Mogador. In the meantime we had all become invested with vermin, and covered with dirt. I also contracted a cutaneous disease from which I

suffered three months and a-half, and had finally to go to the hospital in Tangier to be cured of.

When marching we were mounted on camels—the greatest degradation a Moor can inflict—and compelled to accompany the Kaïd on a ravaging expedition instead of being sent direct to Mogador. We were not allowed to write to the Minister or our Consuls, and were cursed and reviled if ever we attempted to communicate with travelling Jews, who might have taken a message.

We suffered from heat by day and cold and dews by night; were given scarcely anything to eat but barley mash—such as farmers give to their pigs in England—and that often only once a-day. We had always great difficulty to get water, and on one occasion were a day and a-half without. But for the kindness of Kaïd Mohamed-bel-F'kuk, one of the Sultan's officers, who often gave us a dish of boiled rice, we should probably have died of starvation and exhaustion.

At Tisnit Kaïd Giluli stayed with his army and sent us on by special escort to Eda Gilul under charge of Kaïd Hassan. By him we were better fed, but he received special instructions to put the chains on us at night-time.

After we arrived at Eda Gilul, Kaïd Giluli's Kasbah, the chains were taken away altogether, and we were better fed, and we had one blanket and rug given to us.

On arrival at Mogador on the 20th April, we were lodged in the Basha's house instead of being handed over to our Consul, as provided in the Treaty. This official, however, treated us with great kindness and consideration, and we were allowed to be visited by friends, and also the doctor, of whom we all stood badly in need.

(Signed) HENRY M. GREY.

Tangier, July 5, 1898.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

Statement of three Sailors regarding Cruelty experienced at hands of Moors.

ON the early morning of the 18th January we were ordered to go ashore in the boat to fetch Mr. Grey and M. Beyerle on board, as they had been ashore about a fortnight. We went, and as soon as the boat touched the beach we were surrounded by about forty Moors, who dragged us out of the boat and up the beach. They then threw us down on the ground and robbed us; we struggled with them, and asked them to let us return to our ship, but it was all in vain; they then put their rifles to our heads, and forced us to go with them into the hills; there they locked us up in a filthy room till the next morning without giving us any food or water; the next morning they brought us out; it was then that we saw Mr. Grey and M. Beyerle for the first time since we came ashore for them, and we were all taken to Kaïd Giluli's camp; we were taken before the Kaïd himself, and he told us we were his prisoners till the Sultan ordered our release. We then asked for some food, as we had then been twenty-four hours without eating or drinking; we were then put into a small tent and big chains brought, and then all chained round the neck together. We were left like this till the next morning, having nothing to lay on except the bare ground, and nothing to cover us. The next morning the camp was broken up, the chains taken off our necks and small ones put on our ankles, and then made to ride on camels. We travelled like this till we reached a place called Tabata, where we were put into a filthy little hut, and again chained to negroes and tribesmen, all whom were covered with filth and vermin; some of them had wounds from which the blood flowed in pools upon the floor on which we lay. This sort of treatment continued for a month or so, during which time we were half-starved; at one time we were forty hours without a drop of water to drink; we were also that hungry that we were glad to eat the locusts of the air; the tribes all along the route were called upon to jeer at us, spit upon us, and curse us, also to stone us in our helpless condition as we were chained upon camels. M. Beyerle having an attack on his lungs through the damp and cold, an application being made to Kaïd Giluli for covering, he threatened to cut his lungs out. We were not allowed to attend to the calls of nature when we wanted, and for hours at a time we had to sit in agony, and often one of us was beaten and kicked for asking. We were not allowed to stand up in our tent, but made to sit or lie down on the bare rocky ground; we were not even allowed during all this time to wash ourselves; we were simply filthy, and our bodies and clothes were covered with vermin; we were not allowed to communicate or speak to any one; they even refused to let us communicate with our Consul or Ambassador. Whenever we asked anything like that we were

put in chains at once. Even after we arrived at Mogador we were kept locked up, but our Consul was allowed to see us and send us some clean clothes, of which we were much in need of, for we had then been in their hands for more than three months. By this time we were all ill, and our Consul had to call in the doctor to attend us. After been here about a week locked up, we were put aboard the Moorish steamer "Hassanee," and brought up to Tangier, where we were handed over to the British authorities.

This is a true statement of the cruelty we received at the hands of the Moors.

(Signed) WILLIAM LAST, *2nd Mate.*
ALG. DE REYA, *Able Seaman.*
MYER SABBAH, *Purser.*

No. 10.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 12.)

(No. 96. Confidential.)

My Lord, *Tangier, July* 6, 1898.

I WOULD beg leave to offer some observations with reference to my immediately preceding despatch in regard to the ill-treatment suffered by the "Tourmaline" prisoners during the early part of their captivity. The points of chief gravity to my mind are the ironing of the prisoners, the exposure of them to insults, and on one or two occasions, to blows, and the little care given to their general comfort and cleanliness. With respect to the poor quality of the food and the want of drink, I think it right to mention that the barley mash, of which Mr. Grey complains, is the general native food, and that water would have necessarily been, I am told, very scarce on some parts of their journey. It might also be stated that I am informed that Kaïd Gilooly said that some of his men had been killed by the rifles landed by the Europeans, and this fact possibly caused him to be specially revengeful. Still the fact remains, which does not admit of any palliation, that the prisoners for the first three weeks or more were treated with unnecessary harshness and indignity.

The question now is, what reparation should be demanded of the Moorish Government. I would submit that whatever reparation is demanded it should be insisted upon, and that measures should, if necessary, be taken to see that it is accorded. Nothing, I conceive, would have a worse effect than to put forward a demand officially from Her Majesty's Government, and to permit the Moorish Government to evade compliance with it.

I consider it my duty to state frankly to your Lordship that there will be very great unwillingness on the part of the Moorish Government to inflict any serious or public punishment such as dismissal from office, on Kaïd Gilooly. They have great confidence in him, and according to their views he has served his Government well. Moreover, as your Lordship will have observed from the communications which I have received from the Grand Vizier, the Moorish Government consider that the prisoners were implicated in a premeditated and deliberate attempt to raise rebellion in this country. They further assert, and with, I submit, reason, that their wish and desire was that the prisoners should be well treated.

If your Lordship is of opinion that the conduct of Kaïd Gilooly requires his dismissal or some other punishment, I submit that I should be authorized to demand compliance with this request within a specified period; and failing compliance, strong measures should be adopted.

Should your Lordship consider that a money compensation should be awarded, the amount and time within which it should be paid should be clearly stated to the Moorish Government. If, on the other hand, your Lordship is of opinion that an expression of regret on the part of the Moorish Government, and a severe censure on Kaïd Gilooly would, in the circumstances, meet the requirements of the case, I would address the Grand Vizier in that sense.

I trust your Lordship will pardon my laying these various alternatives before your consideration, together with the probable difficulties, which, in my opinion, may arise in obtaining satisfaction in respect to one or two of them.

The time is also approaching when it will be necessary to send some reply to the requests for indemnities and other measures in connection with the "Tourmaline" expedition put forward by the Moorish Government. From what I am able to gather of the attitude of the Moorish Government, I think it would be advisable to state frankly to

them that all those who could be prosecuted have been prosecuted and punished adequately; but that as to an indemnity, Her Majesty's Government regret that they are unable to give one. There are no legal means by which the Syndicate could be obliged to disburse the amount, and that Her Majesty's Government would not be in a position to request a Vote from Parliament out of public moneys for that purpose. If an engagement could be obtained from the Syndicate to the effect that it would never undertake a similar enterprise, the refusal to pay an indemnity might be rendered less displeasing.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 11.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 12.)

(No. 97.)
My Lord, *Tangier, July 6, 1898.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 92 of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith a fresh warrant for the arrest of Major Spilsbury,* accompanied by a sworn information† and by several depositions.*

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 12.

Foreign Office to Home Office.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 13, 1898.*

WITH reference to your letter of the 25th ultimo relating to the warrant issued from Her Majesty's Consular Court at Tangier against Major Spilsbury for certain unlawful proceedings on the coast of Morocco, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you, to be laid before Secretary Sir Matthew Ridley and for such steps as may be requisite in the matter, despatches as marked in the margin,‡ which have been received from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier on the subject.

In his despatch of the 3rd instant, Sir A. Nicolson forwards a certified copy of the sworn information on which he had issued his warrant, together with other documents in support of it.

In his despatch of the 6th instant he incloses a fresh warrant against Major Spilsbury, accompanied by a sworn information and by several depositions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 13.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 98.)
My Lord, *Tangier, July 9, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to state that the Attorney-General has presented to me the account of his fees and travelling expenses in connection with the preparation and prosecution of the "Tourmaline" case. The total amount is 88*l.*, which I venture to think is extremely reasonable, as Mr. Fawkes was over at Tangier for sixteen days at various times, and the case required considerable study and preparation. He charges 5*l.* 5*s.* a-day for fees, or 84*l.* for the sixteen days, and 4*l.* for travelling expenses, as for twelve out of the sixteen days he was a guest with personal friends, and only four days he spent at an hotel.

The Chief Justice has sent me in an account of 19*l.* 10*s.*, being travelling and maintenance expenses for thirteen days at 1*l.* 10*s.* a-day, and the Registrar of the

* Not printed. † Inclosure in No. 6 A. ‡ Nos. 6 A and 11.

Supreme Court an account of 6*l.* 10*s.*, being at the rate of 10*s.* a-day for thirteen days.

I have also received the account from the Continental Hotel here for the expenses of the two Belgian witnesses amounting to 9*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, and also a bill for a doctor who attended Mr. Grey in prison for 1*l.*

The total amount is, therefore, 124*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, and I should be glad to receive your Lordship's authority to pay these several sums, and draw a bill for the amount.

There are a few other minor expenses in connection with the "Tourmaline" case for witnesses, interpreters, &c., but I do not think these will amount to more than 10*l.* or 15*l.*, and I propose to charge them when they are made up in the usual quarterly accounts for the Consulate-General.

The actual expenses in connection with the prosecution of the "Tourmaline" case, so far as have been incurred here, will not amount to more than 140*l.*, which, in the circumstances, I submit are moderate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 14.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 18.)

(No. 99.)
My Lord, *Tangier, July 11, 1898.*

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 58 of the 24th ultimo, I have the honour to report that Mr. Vice-Consul Macleod has informed me that a courier reached the Viceroy of Fez on the 6th instant, with letters from the authorities at Figuig announcing that a collision had occurred between the Moorish tribes near there, and a body of French troops. It was further reported that the French were the attacking party. Mr. Macleod states that he is endeavouring to obtain trustworthy details in regard to the incident, and will report further on the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 15.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 101.)
My Lord, *Tangier, July 13, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to report that the four "Tourmaline" prisoners were yesterday conveyed in custody to Gibraltar to serve their several terms of imprisonment in the prison of that colony. The expenses of the prisoners at Gibraltar will be 2*s.* 6*d.* a-day for each individual, and I presume this charge will be borne by Her Majesty's Government.

The sentences of the two sailors, Last and de Reya, will expire on the 21st instant, and those of Grey and Sabbah on the 1st November.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 16.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 19.)

(No. 102.)
My Lord, *Tangier, July 13, 1898.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 94 of the 5th instant, I have the honour to transmit copies of two further despatches which I have received from Mr. Consul Maclean, relative to the recent arrests by provincial Governors of British Semsars and Mokhalats. I would beg leave to draw your Lordship's attention to the fact that, besides the two Semsars and two Mokhalats to which these despatches refer, there are still two Mokhalats

in detention, arrested in the months of March and April respectively, and in regard to whom I have received no replies from the Grand Vizier to my requests for their release, while I have received no redress in the case of another Mokhalat, who was kept in detention for forty-seven days, and only released when his personal property had been taken from him. By Treaties the Semsars enjoy practically the same privileges and rights as British subjects, and, though Mokhalats have no claim to personal protection, still they cannot be arrested without previous and due notice to their employers, and in none of the cases under consideration was any such notice given.

It is with great reluctance that I submit to your Lordship that steps should be taken to impress on the Moorish Government that these repeated violations of Treaty stipulations cannot be tolerated. If the commercial agents of British merchants can be arrested, and I am afraid also ill-treated, with impunity, the interests of British subjects in this country will grievously suffer, and, unless means are adopted to check the abuse, I fear that it may be repeated in other provincial districts.

I have the honour to transmit the draft of a note which I propose to address to the Grand Vizier, and I would suggest that if a satisfactory reply be not received within the date named in the note that the presence of one or two ships of war at Saffi would be desirable. I am most unwilling to propose measures of this character to your Lordship, but the attitude of the Moorish Government has led to the necessity of some serious notice being taken of the actions of their provincial authorities, which have passed unreproved and unnoticed by their superiors.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

P.S.—I will not transmit the note to the Grand Vizier until I hear further from your Lordship.

A. N.

Inclosure 1 in No. 16.

Consul Maclean to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 79.)

Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, July* 7, 1898.

YOUR Excellency's despatch No. 49 of the 5th instant has just reached me as the steam-ship "Rabat" is on the point of sailing for Tangier.

Writing by her on the 5th instant, Mr. Acting Vice-Consul Reid informs me that none of the men were yet free, and that the Kaïd denied any knowledge of them.

Mr. Reid himself could not find out where they had been put.

A few days previously an Ameen escorted by Government soldiers had arrived at Kaïd Ben Shtewi's house, presumably in connection with the seizure of these men, but they had immediately returned to Marraksh.

Kaïd Aisa-ben-Omar has informed Mr. Hunot, privately, that he had received instructions to arrange the matter, but he pretends not to know where the men are.

Mr. Reid is in great distress as he believes that something underhand is at work, as the Kaïd is sending threatening messages to the relatives of the men. He believes that Kaïd Aisa knows quite well where the men are and if they are still alive. It is said that they have been savagely beaten.

When Mr. Reid, accompanied by Mr. Whitmore, visited the Kaïd Shtewi's house, that officer acknowledged that he had taken the men, but denied that he had caused them to be beaten.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 16.

Consul Maclean to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 80.)

Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, July* 11, 1898.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the arrest of certain British Semsars and Mokhalateen in the Saffi district, Mr. Acting Vice-Consul Reid writing on the 8th instant, informs me that the men have not yet been released, nor, does there seem any present intention to release them.

The Kaïds concerned must, in my opinion, have good reason to believe that their conduct in arresting and detaining them does not meet with the disapproval of the Vizier.

The detention of the men during the harvest season is particularly hard on their employers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

Inclosure 3 in No. 16.

Draft of proposed Note from Sir A. Nicolson to Cid Hamed-ben-Moussa.

(After compliments.) *Tangier, July* , 1898.

IN the note which your Excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 2nd Safar, 1316 (22nd June, 1898), you informed me that His Majesty (compliments) greatly regretted the arrest of certain British-protected persons by provincial Governors, and that a full inquiry would be made into the matter. I would wish to draw your Excellency's serious attention to the following facts:—

On the 3rd December, 1897, I reported to your Excellency the arrest of the British Mokhalat Bushaib-ben-Gilali Zerawy by the Khalifa of Kaïd Hamed-ben-Salh Ezerawy without any notice, as required by Treaty, having been given to his employer. After some correspondence the above man was released, but not until he had paid 70 dollars and had been severely beaten. I made representations to your Excellency on this ill-treatment and this grave violation of Treaty stipulations, but I regret to state that no notice was taken of my remonstrances. In April of this year the same individual, without any notice, was again seized, but this time by the Kaïd himself, and though I have requested his release, I have received no reply, and the man, so far as I am aware, still remains in detention.

In March of this year the Khalifa of Kaïd Bil-Marofy-el-Amrany arrested, without notice, the Mokhalat Ombark-bil-Havary. I represented this case to your Excellency but received no reply; and it was only after forty-seven days' confinement that the man was released after that his certificate, money, and personal property had been robbed from him. No redress whatever was obtained in this case.

In March of this year the Kaïd of Saffi arrested, without any notice, the British Mokhalat Absalam-bil-Hadj Hoban; and though the matter was at once brought to the notice of your Excellency, no reply was sent to my representation, and, so far as I am aware, the man is still in detention.

On the 16th June and 25th June I reported to your Excellency the cases of the arrests of two British Semsars and two British Mokhalats; and your Excellency merely replied that the Moorish Government regretted these incidents and would cause an inquiry to be made. Information which I have recently received shows that those men have not been released, and that no inquiry has been initiated.

In view of all these circumstances, I am authorized by my Government to request the immediate release of all the Semsars and Mokhalats at present in detention; the payment to them of an indemnity of 20 dollars a-day in the case of the Semsars and 10 dollars a-day in the case of the Mokhalats for each day during which they have been in detention, and the dismissal from office of the Kaïds and Khalifas who have been parties to the arrests of the above individuals.

No. 17.

Question asked in the House of Commons, July 21, 1898.

Mr. Duckworth,—To ask the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether, considering the long delay of their trial, the hardships and sufferings they have already undergone, and the fact that had it not been for the information supplied by the British Foreign Office, they would probably have escaped, the Government will now use its best offices with the Moorish Government to secure the pardon

and release of Mr. Harry Grey and the other three British subjects who were recently condemned in the Consular Court in Tangiers to terms of three and four months' imprisonment.

Answer.

The sentences were pronounced by the Chief Justice of Gibraltar; and Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier has informed us that the time during which the prisoners had been in detention was taken into consideration in allotting the sentences.

I am afraid that the fact that the service in which the prisoners were engaged was in deliberate disregard of the repeated warnings given by the Foreign Office can hardly be accepted as a ground for mitigation of sentence.

It is proposed, however, that the imprisonment shall, if possible, take place not in Morocco but at Gibraltar.

No. 18.

Sir E. Monson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received July* 23.)

(No. 368. Confidential.)

My Lord, *Paris, July* 22, 1898.

SPEAKING the other day upon the rumour that the Americans might find the Port of Tangier a convenient basis for operations against Spain, my Italian colleague said that much apprehension exists at Rome as to French dealings with Morocco.

I said that the situation of that country attracted the attention of more than one of the great Powers at this moment; but that I felt confident that, as far as Great Britain was concerned, there would be no acquiescence in any attempt to infringe either upon its actual independence or its territory.

Count Tornielli replied that he did not doubt that we should not permit any "empiètement" which our naval forces could prevent, and that his Government did not fear any interference with the coast-line of Morocco; but that there is not the same facility for hindering the French from nibbling at the Sultan's territory in the interior; and that it was felt in Italy that every advantage would be taken by his neighbours to absorb gradually small portions of his dominions according to the proverbial simile of the consumption of an artichoke, leaf by leaf. Conversations which he (Count Tornielli) had had when he was Ambassador in London caused him to dread that this danger is not sufficiently appreciated by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND MONSON.

No. 19.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received July* 25.)

(No. 103.)

My Lord, *Tangier, July* 15, 1898.

MR. W. C. CLINTON, of 95, High Holborn, has written to me transmitting a copy of a prospectus issued by the Adrar (North-West Africa) Concessions Corporation (Limited), which professes to have obtained a concession from the Chief of Adrar and its dependencies, who has sent his Representative, Mohammed El Sabbar, to London. The Treaty concluded with the above Chief is said to be deposited at the Bank of England. I have the honour to transmit copies of Mr. Clinton's letter to me and of my reply.

The prospectus states that the "country of Adrar is a large territory in North-West Africa, washed by the North Atlantic Ocean, opposite the Canary Isles, between 18° and 28° north latitude and 5° and 17° west longitude" I presume the district alluded to is the Wad Draa, which is well within Moorish territory, though the limits assigned above would also place it within Spanish and foreign territory.

No names of directors appear on the prospectus, and it is stated that "an Agreement, dated the 1st July, 1898, has been entered into between Mahommed El Sabbar (the lawful Representative, with power of Attorney) of the one part and Henry Forsey Brion and another."

I trust this Corporation does not intend to follow the example of the Globe Venture Syndicate; and it would be well, if it were possible, if the public were warned against participating in the scheme.

I beg leave to transmit the prospectus which has been sent to me, but as it is the only copy I have received, I should be grateful if it could be returned to me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 19.

Mr. W. C. Clinton to Sir A. Nicolson.

Sir, *95, High Holborn, London, July* 9, 1898.

I BEG leave to send you herewith a rough proof prospectus of a new Company, which will no doubt interest you. If you will honour us by accepting a directorship on the Board we shall be obliged.

The qualification is 250*l.*, but in your case I shall be pleased to find this qualification. The other directors are well-known influential men. Awaiting your early reply.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) W. C. CLINTON, *Secretary.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 19.

Sir A. Nicolson to Mr. W. C. Clinton.

Sir, *Tangier, July* 15, 1898.

I AM desired by Sir A. Nicolson to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, and to state, in reply, that he is unable to accept the directorship you offer him. I am at the same time to point out to you that the country down to Cape Bojador, which is in the 26th parallel of north latitude, has been recognized by Her Majesty's Government as forming part of the dominions of His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco; and that, therefore, no trading or other operations can be undertaken in that territory without His Majesty's consent having been previously obtained.

I am, &c.

No. 20.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 71.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, July* 27, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 102 of the 13th instant, forwarding further communications from Her Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida relative to the recent arrests by provincial Governors of British Semsars and Mokhalats, and inclosing a draft of a note which you propose to address to the Grand Vizier on this subject.

It would not, in my opinion, be desirable at the present juncture, and in view of the possible complications which might arise in that region, to give to the note the form of an ultimatum, which would commit Her Majesty's Government to the adoption of forcible measures for the purpose of procuring redress if a satisfactory answer were not at once received.

I have, therefore, revised the draft and return it to you in an amended form, in which you are authorized to present it.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 21.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 28.)

(No. 104.)
My Lord, *Tangier, July 19, 1898.*

THE Governor of Sallee, who represents the Moorish Government in matters connected with the "Tourmaline" case, called upon me yesterday and inquired whether I had received any reply from Her Majesty's Government in regard to the claim for indemnity put forward by the Sultan. I told him that no reply had as yet been received; and I added that my Government was also considering the question of the ill-treatment which Kaïd Gilooly had meted out to the prisoners, and which had naturally caused an unpleasing impression in my country. Personally, I had no doubt that the Moorish Government desired, and sent orders, that the prisoners should be humanely and kindly treated; but from the statements made to me by the prisoners it was equally clear that during the early stages of their captivity the prisoners had met with great harshness from Kaïd Gilooly.

Mohammed-ben-Saïd said that the prisoners had gone to savage and wild districts, where the authorities and natives were ignorant and uncivilized; and as warnings had been frequently given them not to venture into such parts, it would scarcely be just to make the Moorish Government responsible for what had occurred against their wishes and instructions.

I did not pursue the subject with Ben Saïd; and I alluded to the ill-treatment merely with a view of preparing him for some representations being officially made on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 22.

Foreign Office to Treasury.

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 29, 1898.*

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier,* containing a statement of the expenses incurred there in connection with the recent prosecution of the prisoners in the case of the "Tourmaline."

A full account of the case will be found in the reference to the Law Officers of the Crown of the 25th May last, a copy of which, together with a copy of the opinion of the Law Officers on the subject, is inclosed herewith for the confidential information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.†

The charges made appear to be extremely moderate under the circumstances; and I am to request that you will state to their Lordships that, with their concurrence, Lord Salisbury proposes to sanction the expenditure in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 23.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 1.)

(No. 105.)
My Lord, *Tangier, July 20, 1898.*

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I have the honour to transmit copies of a despatch and of two of its inclosures, which I have received from Mr. Consul Maclean relative to the arrest of a British semsar and some mokhalats.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

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* No. 13.

† See Part 17, Nos. 180 and 197.

Inclosure 1 in No. 23.

Consul Maclean to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 85.)
Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, July 15, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Excellency's information, copy of a despatch dated the 9th instant, which I have received from Mr. Acting Vice-Consul Reid on the subject of the arrest of his semsar and mokhalateen.

In a private letter dated the 12th instant, Mr. Reid informs me that the men have not been released, and that Kaïd Aisa-ben-Omar now denies that he has received any instructions concerning them.

I also inclose copies of statements made by eye-witnesses of the arrest, and a further statement by Mr. Whitmore of what passed when he accompanied Mr. Reid on a visit to Kaïd-ben-Shteewy.

By this evidence it is shown that the Kaïd knew quite well that he was attacking the friends of a Christian, and that he himself acknowledged attacking them and seizing them, but he denied having beaten them.

He now states that he knows nothing at all about the whole affair, and I am inclined to suspect that he adopts this attitude after receiving inspiration from Government sources.

I sincerely hope that this Kaïd may receive a lesson which will convince his colleagues that British protégés cannot be attacked with impunity.

The case is made even stronger than it otherwise would be by the Kaïd of Saffi refusing to allow the notaries to take down evidence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 23.

Acting Vice-Consul Reid to Consul Maclean.

(No. 55.)
Sir, *Saffi, July 9, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your despatch No. 30 of the 7th instant, transmitting copy of a despatch from Sir A. Nicolson, with inclosures, relative to the arrest of my firm's semsar and agents.

In reply thereto I have to inform you that the persons in question are still detained. Their place of confinement is kept carefully secret, and Kaïd Shteewy continues emphatically to deny the whole affair.

So far nothing has resulted from Kaïd Aisa's intimation, reported in my despatch No. 51 of the 1st instant, that he had been intrusted with the settlement of the case.

Regarding the investigation made by order of the Court, referred to by the Grand Vizier, it appears that the persons appointed for that purpose searched the prison, and not finding the men, made an official document to that effect. It is said that they made no search excepting in the prison.

In addition to the men described in the Vizier's letter, might I point out—lest they may have been omitted—that the prisoners include Hamed-ben-Mesoud (warehouse overseer) and the mother of the semsar with her infant child.

I beg to transmit inclosed copies of the declarations taken down by me of persons who were present at the attack by Kaïd Shteewy. As previously reported the Saffi Adools refused to take down this evidence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DOUGLAS REID.

P.S.—I beg to inclose copy of Declaration by Mr. Whitmore relative to my visit to Kaïd Shteewy's house.

D. R.

Inclosure 3 in No. 23.

Statement by Mr. Whitmore.

ON the 17th day of June, 1898, before me, Douglas Reid, Acting British Consul at Saffi, personally appeared and presented himself Mr. William Whitmore, who declared as follows:—

On the 13th day of June current I accompanied the Acting Vice-Consul, Mr. Reid, to the house of Kaïd Shteewy-ben-Teeby Hermooshy. When we came to the front of the house I saw several camels, three of which I recognized as beloging to Mr. Reid.

We were shown into a room by the Kaïd's servants, and were shortly joined by the Kaïd himself. Mr. Reid soon began to question the Kaïd as to the reason of his seizure of the British semsar, Mohamed-bil-Hadj Mukhtar, of the Mokhalateen M'hamed-bil-Hadj Mukhtar, Hadj-el-Hasen Shiedmy, Hamed-ben-Mesoud, and the boy Abdelkibir, ben-Hadj Mukhtar and his mother; why he had scourged them; why he had taken Mr. Reid's animals and grain and other property. He (the Kaïd) replied denying the scourging, but admitting everything else. He would give no reason for taking them; confessed that he had done wrong, but said that, if Mr. Reid would release him from the consequences he would free the prisoners, and make compensation for the grain taken, and restore all the animals and other property. After deliberation, Mr. Reid said he consented, although at first he said he could grant no release from the consequences of taking the semsar; and a calculation of the estimated loss was made, the amount of which the Kaïd agreed to pay. He promised to send the money to Saffi on the morning of the 15th, to complete the arrangements through the Kaïd Hamya, of Saffi, and immediately thereafter to release the prisoners and return the animals and other property. Mr. Reid pressed him to complete the matter on the spot, and told him he would be responsible for anything that might happen to the prisoners. He (the Kaïd) replied that they were all right and well cared for, and he said that he would not release them then, but that he must first consult with his uncle, Hamed-ben-Gilleiy (semsar of Messrs. Murdoch, Butler, and Co.). Mr. Reid continued to press him, but he would not give in. When Mr. Reid said that he could not give a guarantee of freedom from the consequences of taking the semsar, Kaïd Shteewy said: "You can do your worst, and I shall do mine." Mr. Reid asked to be allowed to leave some provisions he had taken out for the prisoners, but the Kaïd would not allow it, saying they were well cared for.

All which is truth; witness my signature:

(Signed) WM. WHITMORE.

Witnesses to the above signature:
(Signed) H. P. PRATT.
W. H. C. ANDREWS.

Declared before me; witness my hand and seal of office,
(Signed) DOUGLAS REID,
Acting British Vice-Consul.

(Consular seal.)

No. 24.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 72.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 2, 1898.

I RECEIVED your despatch No. 103 of the 15th instant, forwarding copies of correspondence with Mr. W. C. Clinton respecting the proof prospectus of the Adrar (North-West Africa) Concessions Corporation Limited, and I approve the reply which you returned to Mr. Clinton on this subject.

Your suggestion that the public should be warned against this scheme will be borne in mind, but any notice on the subject can only be couched in very general language as a warning against projects for opening trade with the North-West Coast

of Africa which have not, as a preliminary step, received the sanction of the Moorish Government.

The prospectus forwarded in your despatch is, in compliance with your request, herewith returned.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 25.

Foreign Office to the Howard Association.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 2, 1898.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant, in which you draw attention to the cruelties which are inflicted on prisoners in the gaols of Morocco, and ask that steps may be taken by Her Majesty's Government with a view to securing them better treatment.

I am to state, in reply, that this matter has not been lost sight of by Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, and that on the 14th of last month he addressed an earnest appeal to the Grand Vizier on the subject.

He pointed out that the administration of the prisons in Morocco left much to be desired, that they were overcrowded, and that their inmates were underfed, and maintained in unsanitary conditions.

He specially drew attention to the state of the prisons at Mazagan and on the Island of Mogador, and requested that the Circular Instructions for the better treatment of prisoners which were, at the instance of the late Sir J. D. Hay, issued to the Governors of Moorish prisons in 1885, might be repeated.

Lord Salisbury is convinced that Sir A. Nicolson will do his utmost to ameliorate the condition of the Moorish prisons, and the treatment of their inmates, and will forward to him a copy of your letter and its inclosures.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 26.

Foreign Office to the Howard Association.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 3, 1898.

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 2nd ultimo, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to state that a despatch has been received from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier reporting that the Diplomatic Body there have agreed to the address of a collective note to the Grand Vizi r, a draft of which Sir A. Nicolson has submitted to their approval, drawing his Excellency's attention, in an unofficial and friendly manner, to the condition of the prisons in Morocco.

The note points out that in many prisons there is great overcrowding, that sanitary precautions are neglected, and that the poorer prisoners are often in want of necessary food. It suggests that orders be sent to all the provincial Governors to prevent an excessive number of prisoners from being lodged in one gaol, to cleanse and whitewash the prisons periodically, and to see that every prisoner, whatever may be his crime, or his position in life may be, shall never be without sufficient and wholesome nourishment; and finally, it proposes that, to insure the proper execution of these orders, periodical inspection of prisons be made by functionaries appointed for that purpose.

Sir A. Nicolson adds that the proposed communication to the Grand Vizier has met with the cordial acquiescence of his colleagues, and that it will be signed in their names by the dean of the Diplomatic Body at Tangier.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 27.

Newspaper Notice.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs having received information of fresh projects for opening trade with the tribes on the North-west Coast of Africa, and working concessions obtained from the Chiefs of those tribes. thinks it right to warn the public that the coast as far as Cape Bojador, on the 26th parallel of north latitude, has been recognized by Her Britannic Majesty's Government as forming part of the dominions of His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco, and that no trading or other operations can be undertaken in that territory without the consent of the Sultan of Morocco having been previously obtained.

Foreign Office, August 3, 1898.

No. 28.

Question asked in the House of Commons, August 4, 1898.

Mr. Ellis Griffith,—To ask the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the Treaty and Convention, both dated the 9th December, 1856, between Her Majesty and the Sultan of Morocco, mentioned in the letter from Mr. Hawksley in the "Times" of the 8th instant, are inforce; and, if so, what is meant by the warning issued by the Foreign Office, as mentioned in the "Times" of the 4th instant, that no trading or other operations can be undertaken in the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco without the consent of the Sultan having been previously obtained.

Answer.

The provisions of the Treaty and Convention are subject to the restrictions which are imposed on other foreigners. There is a general restriction on trade with the tribes on the north-west coast beyond Mogador, where no recognized port of entry exists, and the notice applies to that part of the coast. Where there is a general permission for trade, special consent is of course not necessary.

No. 29.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 28.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, August* 5, 1898, 6 P.M.

CASE of the "Tourmaline."

The Court of Queen's Bench considered to-day the case of Major Spilsbury, who was brought before them on a writ of *habeas corpus*.

Application was made that the trial should take place at Gibraltar, and the Court seemed disposed to entertain it favourably, although at the same time to order the execution of the warrant.

Major Spilsbury has sworn an affidavit that he has received several warnings, and that, owing to the want of sufficient police or other protection, his life will be in danger at Tangier.

Do you consider that there is any objection to the trial taking place at Gibraltar, and do you think that Major Spilsbury's assertions are well founded?

No. 30.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 6.)

(No. 106.)

My Lord, *Tangier, July* 29, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a Petition which I have received from Henry Grey, one of the "Tourmaline" prisoners, for the remission of his sentence.

In the circumstances, I feel I can hardly recommend this Petition to your Lordship's favourable consideration, but I forward it in case your Lordship should be of a different opinion.

I may mention that several witnesses deposed that the prisoner Grey had stated to Kaïd Guilooly that he and his party had come to Sûs for the purposes of trade, and asserted that they had a right to do so under Treaties.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 30.

Mr. H. M. Grey to Sir A. Nicolson.

Her Majesty's Civil Prison, Gibraltar,

Sir, *July* 25, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to appeal to your Excellency to recommend Her Majesty's Secretary of State, in accordance with the provisions of the Morocco Order in Council, to advise Her Majesty to grant the remission of the remainder of my sentence on the following grounds, viz.:—

1. That British subjects tried in Morocco have not the right of trial by jury.

2. That the evidence in "Regina *v.* Grey and others" was not such as a jury would have been likely to have convicted upon as regards myself.

3. That there was no evidence that I went to Sûs with any other purpose than to write a book and take photographs.

4. That the maximum penalty for smuggling into Moroquine territory is imprisonment for one year; and that, as I have already been in custody since the 19th January last, with the exception of ten days' release on bail, the sentence of four months' imprisonment passed by the Judge is equal to nine months' imprisonment altogether, or three-fourth's of the maximum period allowed by the law.

5. That, taking all these circumstances into consideration, the requirements of justice have already been amply met.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY M. GREY.

No. 31.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 6.)

(No. 107.)

My Lord, *Tangier, July* 31, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 99 of the 11th instant, I have the honour to state that, according to the information I have now received, it would appear that there was no hostile action or demonstration on the part of the French troops who are alleged to have crossed the Algerian frontier.

I am informed that it is true that a party of French soldiers arrived on Moorish territory, and that the natives began to collect in armed bodies, while some of the Elders proceeded to question the strangers as to their intentions.

The latter replied that they were travelling, and meant no harm, and subsequently recrossed the frontier into their own territory.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 32.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 6.)

(No. 46.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 6, 1898.

GLOBE Venture case.

Reference your Lordship's telegram No. 28.

It seems to me impossible that Major Spilsbury's life could be in any danger whatever here, and, as measures could then be taken, I should like to know the sources whence warnings were sent.

It would be most difficult, if not impossible, if trial were held at Gibraltar, to insure the attendance of witnesses, whom we could not subpœna as they are all foreign or native subjects. Moreover, for other reasons, I am strongly of opinion that the trial should be held, as in former case, before the Chief Justice here.

No. 33.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 7.)

(No. 47.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 7, 1898.

GLOBE Venture case.

With reference to my telegram No. 46 of yesterday, Counsel for defence stated, I see, on the 1st instant, in police court, that 100*l.* had been placed as a reward on his client's head. There is no foundation for this report, or, indeed, for other statements as to dangers to Christians here, and Counsel has been misinformed.

No. 34.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 29.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, August* 8, 1898.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 106 of the 29th ultimo, I request that you will send Grey's Petition for release to the Chief Justice of Gibraltar for his observations, which you should then forward to this Office.

No. 35.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 30.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, August* 8, 1898.

THE Court of Queen's Bench has refused Major Spilsbury's application for bail, but in view of the fact that the prosecution has been instituted in the interests of the Moorish Government, they consider that the latter should assist in securing the attendance of witnesses at Gibraltar, and have therefore ordered that the trial should take place at that place.

No. 36.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 10.)

(No. 108.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 2, 1898.

WITH reference to previous correspondence I have the honour to transmit translation of a note which I have received from the Grand Vizier relative to the seizure of the Semsar and Mokhalats of Mr. Reid. The note says nothing as to the liberation of the above men, nor expresses any regret for their illegal detention. His

Excellency's communication is, I submit, unsatisfactory and shows no disposition to offer any reparation for the acts committed by the Provincial Governor.

I also beg leave to inclose copies of two despatches which I have received from Mr. Consul Maclean. One Mokhalat has been liberated in the circumstances detailed in Mr. Maclean's despatch No. 91 of the 28th ultimo.

I am abstaining from any further communication with the Grand Vizier on these matters until I receive instructions from your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICHOLSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 36.

The Grand Vizier to Sir A. Nicolson.

(After Compliments.)

IN the matter of Mohamed-ben-Mokhtar el Abdi el Hasseeni and the Mokhalats who were with him—about which we have replied previously to you, oh friend, stating that Shereefian orders had been issued for an investigation to be held into the matter. The Government appointed two intelligent Ameens and two Adools to make the investigations and to go to verify the whole facts, and the manner in which this should be done was explained to them for their guidance in elucidating the matter—from attention to your urgent request for care to be given to it. His Majesty (compliments) has ordered me to narrate to you the result, that your mind may be satisfied that the attention due to your friendship has been given, as he has also ordered me to recount to you the disorder which has taken place openly in the Abda Kabila which is not hidden from you, and of their applying themselves to cutting off the roads and bloodshed and robbing the caravans of the merchants and others, following thereby the lead of others. And when the Government applied itself to the chastisement of those guilty of these disorders, the majority of the Abda people at once fled, and when it became necessary for the Government to help to collect the Rabilas and get them to return to their homes, all those who had committed any crime and the Chiefs of those who participated in the late sedition and have any property go to cover themselves by entering into business with (or becoming Mokhalats of) the Saffi merchants in order that they may put off paying what is due by them for their crimes; as, in the greater part only those go for this purpose who are indebted in these affairs. The object of recounting this to your Excellency (the Just) is that you may send, oh friend, a letter to your Consul at Saffi instructing him to follow the usual course in granting Mokhalats to merchants, which is that whoever a merchant desires to trade with (or appoint as his Mokhalat), the Consul should inform the Governor of Saffi thereof and he will make inquiries of his Governor, then if he is found to be of the persons who are indebted for such things, the Consul will be replied to in that sense so that the merchant may restrain himself from making him his business agent, and if he is not pursued for anything he will be conceded, as there is no hindrance to the merchant doing business with whoever he desires, the only object is that he should do business with (or appoint as his Mokhalats) those against whom there is no claim. It is expected from your Excellency, oh friend, that you will give attention to sending a notice to your said Consul relating the above to him and impress it upon him in a manner that will cause him not to depart again from the recognized course, in order that matters may continue to follow the necessary course, and the traces of consideration and affection increase by reason of the strength of their supports. And you will be the first to assist in such matters as you are a friend from a friendly Government.

May you continue, &c.
(Signed) HAMED-BEN-MOUSSA-BEN-HAMED.

27 *Safar*, 1316 (*July* 17, 1898.)

Inclosure 2 in No. 36.

Consul Maclean to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 90.)

Sir, *Daralbaida, July* 27, 1898.

IN reply to your Excellency's despatch No. 52 of the 20th instant, which only reached me this morning, I have the honour to report that nothing further has been reported to me in connection with the arrest of Mr. Whitmore's Semsar.

My despatch No. 80 of the 11th instant, written hurriedly to avoid missing a post, has reference to both Mr. Whitmore's Semsar and Mr. Reid's.

The latter gentleman favours me with a private letter by nearly every post, containing the information that nothing further has transpired in connection with these two matters.

When I last heard, Mr. Whitmore was still encamped on his imprisoned Semsar's property, and was himself superintending the harvest operations.

I find in my archives that there is a despatch from Mr. Acting Vice-Consul Reid, dated the 27th ultimo (copy of which I transmit herewith), stating the Kaïd's reply to the representations made to him. That officer simply denies knowledge of Hadj Ali being a Semsar, and says he will inquire into the matter. As a matter of fact, there is a letter in existence from the Kaïd himself to the Governor of Saffi, acknowledging the usual notification that Hadj Ali had been appointed a British Semsar.

The result of the inquiries which were promised have not been communicated with me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

Inclosure 3 in No. 36.

Mr. Reid to Consul Maclean.

(No. 49.)

Sir, *Saffi, June* 27, 1898.

WITH reference to the seizure of Mr. Whitmore's Semsar reported in my despatch No. 48 of the 18th instant, I beg to inform you that Kaïd Abba-bil-Marofy has replied from Morocco city to the effect that he was unaware that Hadj Ali was a Semsar, but that he will inquire into the matter. I have seen the Kaïd of Saffi regarding this alleged ignorance on the part of Kaïd Abbas, and he showed me a letter received from the Khalifa of Kaïd Abbas in which he acknowledged receipt of Kaïd Hamza's letter, informing him of the appointment, and stated that he had taken note of it.

Mr. Whitmore has written to me from Ovlad Amran that the grain and animals have not been touched, only the house being plundered. I beg to forward herewith inclosed a note of the property said to be missing, as per Adool's document. You will observe that it includes a sum of 800 dollars—cash given by Mr. Whitmore to his Semsar for trading purposes. The documents making up this amount have been exhibited to me. It is impossible to estimate the value of the box of sundries mentioned in the list, but the other articles detailed might together be roughly set down at about 250 dollars.

Mr. Whitmore writes, under date the 24th instant, that Hadj Ali is still in prison.

I am, &c.

(Signed) DOUGLAS REID.

Inclosure 4 in No. 36.

Consul Maclean to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 91.)

Sir, *Daralbaida, July* 28, 1898.

IN my despatch No. 57 of the 20th April, I reported that Bushaib-ben-Gilali Baghta Zerawi, Mokhalat, No. 62, had been re-arrested.

I am happy to be able to inform your Excellency that he was released again two days ago.

Your Excellency will remember the history of this case. Bushaib, who has been a Mokhalat for several years, was arrested by his Kaïd's Khalifa, and to my representation to the Kaïd the latter refused to recognize him as a British Mokhalat.

The matter was reported to your Excellency, and you were kind enough to address the Vizier on the subject. Bushaib was released, but I am informed he had first to pay 70 dollars.

Afterwards he was re-arrested, this time by the Kaïd himself, and he has now been simply let out of prison. None of his own property, or the property of his employer, has been restored to him.

The employer can bring no proof of what actually belonged to him beyond papers showing that the agent owes him a considerable amount.

Bushaib has been a prisoner since November last year, excepting for the short period between his first release and re-arrest.

The Kaïd who arrested him gave no notice to this Consulate, as required by Article IX of the Madrid Convention. No apology has been made for this contravention, and beyond the man's release, after many months' imprisonment, no satisfaction has been given, and the offending Kaïd has profited to the extent of the money said to have been paid to him and the property which he confiscated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

No. 37.

Messrs. Lawless and Co. to Foreign Office.—(Received August 10.)

26, Martin's Lane, Cannon Street, London, August 9, 1898.

Sir,

WE are informed by William Last, who was second officer on board the "Tourmaline," that he supplied the Foreign Office with a written statement of his connection with the "Tourmaline," and what happened to him at the hands of the Moors.

He informs us that he believes some claim was being put forward by the home Government for compensation to be paid by the Moorish Government.

We shall be glad to know as to this, and whether steps are or will be taken to secure compensation for him.

We have been acting for William Last in a matter in connection with the "Tourmaline," and, as he is naturally anxious upon the subject of this communication, he has asked us to make this inquiry for him, which will explain how we come to write in the matter.

We are, &c.

(Signed) LAWLESS AND Co.

No. 38.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 10.)

(No. 48.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 10, 1898.

GLOBE Venture case.

With reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 30 of the 8th instant, I should be glad to be informed when Major Spilsbury may be expected to reach Gibraltar.

The Attorney-General of Gibraltar wishes to receive the originals of the following documents:—

Major Spilsbury's letters to Mr. Johnston and Mr. White, sent home in my despatch No. 92; Major Spilsbury's letter to Globe Venture Syndicate, which was put in evidence at Bow Street; and all his letters to the War Office.

In case charge for riot should fall through, Attorney-General would like Law Officers' opinion as to whether he should proceed against Major Spilsbury for smuggling.

No. 39.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 31.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, August* 10, 1898, 7·30 P.M.

TOURMALINE Case.

The first paragraph of your telegram No. 48 of to-day, respecting the documents required by the Attorney-General of Gibraltar, has been referred to the Home Office.

As regards the last paragraph of your telegram, Sir Richard Webster stated in Court on the 8th instant that Major Spilsbury would only be tried on the charge on which the order was based.

No. 40.

Foreign Office to Home Office.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 10, 1898.

WITH reference to my letter of the 8th instant, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit a telegram from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier,* inquiring when Major Spilsbury may be expected to arrive at Gibraltar, and requesting that certain documents, which are specified in the telegram, may be sent out for the use of the Attorney-General.

Lord Salisbury would be glad if Sir Matthew Ridley would enable him to reply to Sir A. Nicholson's inquiry and request.

With regard to the third paragraph of the telegram, Her Majesty's Minister has been informed by telegraph that the Attorney-General stated in Court on the 8th instant that there was no intention of trying Major Spilsbury on any other charge than that on which the order was based.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 41.

Treasury to Foreign Office.—(Received August 11.)

Sir, *Treasury Chambers, August* 10, 1898.

THE Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have had before them your letters of the 29th and 30th ultimo respecting the expenses of prosecution in the "Tourmaline" case at Tangier, and the cost of the maintenance of the condemned prisoners, in that case, at Gibraltar.

After consulting the Treasury Solicitor, my Lords sanction the payment of the expenses of prosecution, estimated at 140*l.*, as a charge against the Diplomatic and Consular Vote.

My Lords presume that the Home Office will accept the charge of maintaining the prisoners on the Prisons Vote.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS MOWATT.

No. 42.

Home Office to Foreign Office.—(Received August 12.)

Sir, *Whitehall, August* 11, 1898.

IN answer to your letter of yesterday's date, inclosing copy of a telegram from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier in the case of Regina *v.* Major Spilsbury, I am directed by the Secretary of State to acquaint you, for the information of the Marquess of Salisbury, that the accused will be taken to Gibraltar by the first boat possible, namely, by that starting on Thursday next week.

The whole of the papers relating to this case, including the depositions taken at Bow Street, and the two letters mentioned in Sir A. Nicolson's telegram, are sent herewith for transmission by post to Gibraltar.

The notes of the proceedings in the High Court on Monday last will also be sent as soon as a copy of the transcript has been made.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES S. MURDOCH.

No. 43.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 12.)

(No. 49.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 12, 1898.

GLOBE Venture case.

Attorney-General of Gibraltar thinks he should be specially engaged to prosecute Major Spilsbury, as case is a special one. May I do so, and offer fifty guineas as fee?

No. 44.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 32.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, August* 12, 1898.

THE papers referred to in your telegram No. 48 of the 10th instant will be sent to the Attorney-General at Gibraltar by post to-night.

As soon as a transcript is made of the notes of the proceedings in the High Court it will be forwarded to you.

Major Spilsbury will be taken to Gibraltar in the boat leaving Thursday, 18th August.

No. 45.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 15.)

(No. 109.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August 5,* 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 103 of the 15th ultimo, I have the honour to report that the Mohammed-el-Sabbah mentioned in the prospectus of the Adrar Syndicate is a certain Spiridian—an Armenian—who is said to be the brother-in-law of Sheikh Barookh, an important person in the Wad Nun and Cape Juby districts. I may mention that the Moorish Government is kept well informed of the proceedings of the Syndicate through a confidential Agent in London.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 46.

Mr. R. Grey to Mr. Balfour.—(Received August 16.)

Sir, *Grammar School, Rochdale, August* 15, 1898.

HUMBLY, but earnestly, I venture to appeal to you for merciful consideration on behalf of my son, Henry M. Grey, now in prison in Gibraltar, on a charge of smuggling in the district of Sûs, North-west Africa.

I endeavour to repress the indignation aroused in me by the severity shown towards him, for the gratification of a tyrannical and barbarous Power, before and at the ceremony which took place in the Consular Court at Tangier, and confine myself to an entreaty that you will use your influence to effect the shortening of his imprisonment, on the following grounds:—

1. That, before his trial was allowed to take place, he had already suffered a more

than adequate punishment for his alleged offence, even if it had been proved against him.

2. If his confinement be prolonged to the end of the term fixed by the sentence, he will have suffered more than three-fourths of the maximum penalty, and cruel tortures besides.

3. Although, having been robbed of everything by Moorish soldiers, he is unable to enjoy the advantages of his prison rank as a "first-class misdemeanant," yet he is not being punished directly in person. He says that to one who has been glad to appease his hunger with raw wild carrots, locusts, &c., picked up and devoured on the march amid unspeakable uncleanness, the commonest British gaol fare may well be even enjoyable. The punishment is really being borne by his wife and family, who are reduced to destitution, or dependence upon the generosity of friends, through the enforced suspension of his power to maintain them.

4. The very kindness, official and non-official, which has been showered upon him since he arrived within touch of civilization, is itself a silent protest against the punishment meted out to him.

5. His case has aroused feelings of irritation and dissatisfaction, especially on the part of the supporters of the present Government in this constituency, where, three years ago, a signal victory for the Unionist cause was the result and the reward of their persistent arduous labours, extending over many years.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ROBERT R. GREY.

No. 47.

Foreign Office to Messrs. Lowless and Co.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, August* 17, 1898.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, and to state that the question of obtaining compensation for the imprisoned members of the crew of the "Tourmaline," on account of their ill-treatment at the hands of the Moorish authorities, is occupying the attention of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. H. VILLIERS.

No. 48.

Foreign Office to Home Office.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 17, 1898.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have sanctioned the payment of the expenses of the prosecution of the prisoners in the "Tourmaline" case at Tangier as a charge against the Diplomatic and Consular Vote.

The accused were condemned to various terms of imprisonment, as stated in my letter of the 15th ultimo, and the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury presume that your Department will accept the charge of maintaining the prisoners on the Prison Vote.

Lord Salisbury would be glad to learn whether Secretary Sir M. Ridley concurs in this course.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. H. VILLIERS.

No. 49.

Mr. G. Grey to Mr. Balfour.—(*Received August* 19.)

Ingleside, Chestnut Road, Kingston-on-Thames, August 18, 1898.

Sir,

AS the brother of H. M. Grey, now undergoing a term of imprisonment at Gibraltar, in connection with the "Tourmaline" case, and in the interests of his wife and family, I should be glad to learn if a claim has been put forward by the Government to the Sultan of Morocco, for compensation for the loss and suffering my brother underwent at the hands of the Sultan's troops during the three months he and the other prisoners were in their hands.

Craving the favour of an early reply, I am, &c.
(Signed) G. H. GREY.

No. 50.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 22.)

(No. 110.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 9, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 67 of the 19th May last, I have the honour to report that, having been informed that public sales of slaves were occurring at Rabat and Saffi, I addressed a communication to the Grand Vizier, reminding him of his promise to cause orders to be issued for the prohibition of such sales, and requesting that instructions be sent to prevent such occurrences from taking place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 51.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 22.)

(No. 111.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 10, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 87 of the 17th June, I have the honour to transmit copy of a despatch from Mr. Vice-Consul Bewicke relative to affairs in the Riff territory.

I am informed that further reinforcements for the Sultan's expedition will shortly arrive from the south.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 51.

Vice-Consul Bewicke to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 40.)
Sir, *Tetuan, August* 9, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to report that news has arrived here of further fighting against the Bocoyans, who, it appears, were tempted to return to their territory by the apparent withdrawal of the Sultan's forces.

I am not quite satisfied about the correctness of my information, but I am informed that between 200 and 300 Bocoyan men, women, and children were taken as prisoners.

According to the reports here, the intention of the Government is to entirely destroy the Bocoyan tribe by killing and imprisoning them, or driving them away from their territory and scattering them over the country. The neighbouring tribes have been warned not to give them any shelter.

Several hundred Bocoyans are said to have left and gone into Ghromara.

It is reported here that after the Sultan's forces have finished with the Bocoyans, they are to attack and destroy three or four other tribes in that locality.

There was a report here that some of the Headmen tried some little time ago to persuade the tribes to join against the Sultan's forces, saying that it was the Government's policy to attack and destroy them piecemeal, and that they had better join together and draw the Government forces out of the Riff country, but they have apparently failed to rouse the people so far.

A man, who has just returned from Beni Ournhal, informs me that it is intended to form a town near the refuge of M'jadhin, Village of Ashdir. He tells me this place, which is on the sea-coast just within the Beni Ournhal territory, was formerly a town, and has a fort and the remains of an old aqueduct.

I am, &c.
(Signed) W. S. BEWICKE.

No. 52.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 22.)

(No. 112.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 11, 1898.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I have the honour to transmit copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Consul Maclean relative to the outstanding debts due to British merchants in the Saffi district.

I have obtained on several occasions letters from the Grand Vizier to the Provincial Governors, ordering them to attend to the settlement of British claims, but these instructions have been ignored by the local Governors, who have, I am told, even prevented those debtors who were anxious to meet their engagements from carrying out their intentions.

The Governors have doubtless received instructions to compel the people to meet, in the first instance, the demands of the Government Treasury; and, consequently, the peasants have little or nothing wherewith to pay their commercial obligations.

The situation is most serious to British merchants in the Saffi district, but I question the propriety of transferring, as suggested by Mr. Maclean, the liabilities to the Moorish Government. Assuming that the latter were induced to accept the obligation, it would only discharge it by wringing the amount from an already hardly-pressed people, without any distinction and without any examination into the several claims. I will continue to urge the matter on the Grand Vizier in the hope of eventually obtaining some settlement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Consul Maclean to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 95.)
Sir, *Dar al Baida, August* 8, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of your despatch No. 53 of the 2nd instant.

The letters alluded to in the Vizier's note have reached the Osmana of Saffi, but those for the Kaïds have not yet been delivered, as the addressees are on a visit to the Court at Marakesh.

The consistent bad faith of the Moorish Government in this matter of outstanding debts is distressing and unfortunate for our merchants. The Vizier's note of the 18th July is a repetition of several similar notes, and the orders he promises for the Kaïds arrive in Saffi at a time when he knew they must be absent from their districts on a visit to the Court.

The Vizier's conduct conveys to the Kaïds, Kabyles, and Europeans, the impression that our merchants' interests give him no concern, and this is the result of years of patient endeavour to obtain for our merchants simple justice as between debtor and

creditor. In the meantime, as harvest succeeds harvest, year after year, our merchants have been obliged to look on at their debtors being despoiled of their property for the enrichment of the Kaïds and the Moorish Government.

Merchants consider themselves justified in asking how much longer patience is to be exercised at their expense. They contend that they have traded on the strength of the Conventions and Treaties between their own and the Moorish Government. They ask for no favours, for no special privileges, but they appeal to Her Majesty's Government to rescue their capital from the rapacity of Moorish officials.

I must add that they constantly express to me their sincere gratitude to you for the sympathetic support they invariably receive from the Legation.

I would respectfully venture to submit to your Excellency that the result of all our endeavours for the recovery of these outstanding debts points to the moral that with the Moorish Government, as at present constituted, friendly persuasion is not likely to be successful, or, if it be possible, that it would succeed in the end, it is likely to be a long process, which, in the meantime, spells ruin to the merchants. I confess that it is easy enough to arrive at this conclusion, but it is more difficult to recommend a line of conduct which would be more successful.

I am of opinion that it is too late in the day to suggest a Joint Commission, as this would be disadvantageous to our merchants after these years of waiting. If it had been granted three years ago, then most of the debts would have been easy to compromise.

I believe the only course to take, which is likely to be successful, is to transfer the debtors' liabilities to the Moorish Government, and to demand the whole amount from them, but I have no doubt that they will demur, and that it will be necessary for Her Majesty's Government to convey the impression that the demand will be insisted upon.

My long acquaintance with the Vizier, and knowledge of his character, lead me to think that he would be considerably startled if the aggregate amount of these outstanding debts were demanded from his Government, to be paid within a short limit of time, by orders on the Custom-houses of Dar al Baida, Mazagan, and Mogador.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

No. 53.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 22.)

(No. 113. Confidential.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 11, 1898.

TWO emissaries from El Hashem, the Shereef of Tasserawalt, in the Sus district, called upon me yesterday to deliver some messages from this personage. El Hashem was connected with the proceedings of the Globe Venture Syndicate, and was one of the signatories of the "Conventions" which Major Spilsbury concluded with some of the Sus tribes. His father was a powerful man, and possessed great influence in the Sus; but the present Shereef has been shorn, I am told, of much of his property by the Moorish Government, and has lost the position held by his parent.

The gentlemen who visited me explained that the Shereef had been misled by Major Spilsbury, who had given him to understand that he was acting on behalf of the British Government; and in proof of this statement a seal on the "Conventions" had been shown to him as the seal of Her Majesty's Government. It is possible that as Mr. Vice-Consul Johnston legalized the signatures of the "Conventions," the seal in question was the Vice-Consulate stamp.

My visitors further explained that it was feared the Moorish Government intended to inflict a severe punishment on those parts of the Sus which were easily accessibe to their troops; and that the Shereef had succeeded in uniting all the tribes together to resist the Sultan's forces. Before taking active measures he wished to obtain the support of the British Government, and if he could secure their protection he would be in a position to restrain the tribes, and adopt an attitude towards the Moorish Government which would cause it to hesitate from acts of repression towards him and his people. At the same time it was hinted to me that should this proposal not be accepted, the Shereef would be compelled to turn to the French authorities for that protection which he now sought from the British. I may mention that I have been

informed that recently an Algerian, who was stated to be a French Agent, visited the Shereef, but the exact object, and the the results of his Mission, I have hitherto not been able to ascertain.

The Shereef dispatched his son lately to the Moorish Court with some valuable presents, and it is probable that he will there be detained as a hostage for his father's good behaviour.

I told my visitors that it was imprudent on the part of the Shereef to enter into relations or engagements with a foreign Company, which had no connection whatever with the Government, and that the best advice I could give him was to make peace with the Moorish Government, and to act as a loyal subject to the Sultan.

I was unable, I said, to recommend to my Government to accord the protection he desired, and indeed Treaties precluded us from so doing.

It is possible that the Shereef may solicit the French Legation to grant him protection. I do not know if his application will meet with success, but if it does I think the Shereef would prove an inconvenient protégé, and that little political advantage would be gained by the concession. So far as my information goes, he is not a man of great influence, and I greatly question whether he has succeeded in uniting the tribes together. It is clear he is in fear of being called to account for his connection with the Company, and is seeking for some means of avoiding the blow which he considers to be impending.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 54.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 22.)

(No. 114.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 14, 1898.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 28 of the 8th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a letter which I have received from the Chief Justice of Gibraltar relative to the application of Mr. Henry Grey for a remission of his sentence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 54.

Chief Justice Gatty to Sir A. Nicolson.

Sir, *Judges' Chambers, Gibraltar, August* 11, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 9th August, inclosing copy of a Petition by the prisoner Henry Grey, asking for a remission of the remainder of his sentence, upon which, at your Excellency's request, I have the honour to make the following observations :—

The prisoner puts forward several grounds on which he bases his Petition, the first being that British subjects tried in Morocco have not the right of trial by jury. This does not appear to me to require any observations on my part.

Secondly, he suggests that the evidence against him was not such as a jury would have been likely to convict upon. As to this I can only express my judicial opinion that there was ample evidence to be considered by a jury upon which they might have properly convicted. It was proved by the testimony of others, and the prisoner's own admission—

(*a.*) That the prisoner left England in the "Tourmaline" knowing her destination to be the Sûs country.

(*b.*) That on the way the ship put into Antwerp, and was there loaded with a large quantity of rifles, which were stowed loose, being unpacked ir the harbour from their

cases so that everyone on board must have been aware that the ship was loaded with a large quantity of military weapons.

(*c.*) That while the "Tourmaline" lay off the coast of Sûs, people from the ship landed tents and a considerable quantity of arms.

(*d.*) That the tents were still on shore when the Moorish authorities appeared upon the scene.

(*e.*) That the persons on shore at this time were the prisoner Grey, the German, two sailors from the ship, and the so-called purser, who acted as interpreter, and came from Mogador.

(*f.*) That when Grey and the others were captured Grey acted as the head man of the party in the interviews with their captors, and explained that they had come to buy and sell in the land, claiming to do so by Treaty rights established between the Queen and the Sultan.

The evidence left no doubt on my mind that the prisoner Grey was the person in charge of the tents and whatever was taken on shore, and, in fact, the leader of the shore party. According to his own statement there were several tents landed, and, according to other witnesses, a large number of rifles. It did not appear to me in the least probable that whoever owned the tents and rifles would have left them on the shore without someone in charge of them capable of bearing more responsibility than could be expected from the two common seamen or the Portuguese purser. I did not believe, therefore, the suggestion of the prisoner Grey that he was an innocent onlooker on a pleasure trip only, and I observed that throughout the whole trial the prisoner never actually denied that he had an interest in the expedition, though he frequently urged, as he does in the present Petition, that there was no evidence to show that he had. In addressing the Court before verdict he did state: "I had no official position, received no pay, and my ulterior object was to see the country, of which little is known, take photographs, and possibly at some future time write an account of my experiences, this is in no way inconsistent with the evidence," but, whether he had an interest or not, I think any jury would have found him guilty of taking a part, and a prominent part, in the landing of arms which took place.

My remarks as to the second ground taken by the prisoner are applicable to the third ground of his Petition.

The prisoner suggests, fourthly, that his sentence, taken with the time during which he was in custody before trial, is equal to nine months' imprisonment. In passing the sentence upon the prisoner I took into consideration the long period during which he had been in custody, and told him so in open Court. I also told him, what is still my opinion, that it is difficult to conceive a more mischievous or serious form of smuggling than the smuggling of weapons useful only for purposes of warfare, and that I regarded the case of the "Tourmaline" as a very serious case on that account, as it meant more than merely cheating the revenue.

In my opinion, if the prisoner took the part which, from the evidence I believe he did, in the landing of arms which took place, the term of nine months' imprisonment would not be an excessive punishment, and on these grounds I see no reason to acceding to the prayer of the prisoner's Petition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STEPHEN H. GATTY.

No. 55.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 22.)

(No. 173.)
My Lord, *Brussels, August* 21, 1898.

I HEAR from Baron Lambermont that when the King starts in a few days for his next yachting cruise, His Majesty will again visit the coasts of Morocco and the adjacent islands, returning afterwards by the Mediterranean and again through France.

This would appear to prove that His Majesty has not abondoned the idea of acquiring a tract of territory in that part of Africa, and no doubt Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier will know what the exact spot is on which His Majesty is supposed to have fixed.

I believe that the visit to Tangier of the Belgian Captain Devers, whom your Lordship lately caused me send to Gibraltar, as witness in a murder case, was connected in some way with this same contemplated purchase of land by the King.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 56.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 22.)

(No. 50.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August 22, 1898.*

GLOBE Venture Case.

The trial of Major Spilsbury will begin at Gibraltar on the 5th September.

The Attorney-General is anxious to again call the two witnesses from Antwerp. He presses for them, although I had hoped it would not have been necessary.

No. 57.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 116.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August 17, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 77 of the 8th instant, transmitting a letter from Mr. Charles F. Cooper drawing attention to a passage in the "Al Moghreb al Aksa" relative to the position of British protected persons in Morocco.

My despatches will have acquainted your Lordship with the facts that certain British Semsars and Mokhalats are at the present moment in captivity in the Saffi district; and that hitherto no redress has been obtained from the Moorish Government, nor the men liberated. These are facts much to be regretted, and on which I have already expressed my views. I am not aware that any foreign protected subjects are in a similar unfortunate position.

In regard to the difficulties placed in the way of legitimate trade in this country, I would point out that these difficulties are not limited to British merchants. Several of my colleagues have recently spoken to me seriously on this subject, and have discussed the question as to whether we should not propose to our respective Governments some identic or collective action to remedy the present position of affairs. There can be little doubt that the policy of the Grand Vizier is to raise as many obstacles as possible to the free development of commerce, and to render the residence of foreigners in this country difficult and unprofitable. The foreign Representatives, I think I may say without exception, find that their representations on the individual grievances which are brought to their notice are either left for a long period without any reply, or are met with evasive and unsatisfactory explanations. The cases are rare in which a just and satisfactory settlement is reached. The few matters on which we are in a position to take collective action are not in a better position; and I can recall but one or two minor questions in which the united action of the Diplomatic Body has been more successful than individual endeavour.

I may add that even the deputy of the Sultan here deplores the methods of conducting business which at present govern at the Court, and foresees that their persistent continuance may lead to serious consequences.

The large proportion of the general commerce of the country which is in British hands, amounting to more thah 50 per cent. of the whole, is perhaps a reason why British claims are more numerous than others; but, beyond the arrest of certain British protected persons in one district, I have not found that British interests are at a disadvantage compared with those of other countries.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 58.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 51.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August 23, 1898.*

GLOBE Venture Case.

Yesterday Major Spilsbury was brought before Gibraltar Court, when question was raised as to trial by jury. On this point judge deferred his decision till 5th September.

According to a telegram received from the Attorney-General of Gibraltar, witnesses will not be required until decision has been given.

The Major was admitted to bail.

No. 59.

Foreign Office to Mr. G. Grey.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August 23, 1898.*

I AM directed by Mr. Balfour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, and to state, in reply, that the question as to whether a claim should be made on the Moorish Government on your brother's behalf, is under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 60.

Foreign Office to Mr. R. Grey.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August 23, 1898.*

I AM directed by Mr. Balfour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, and to state that Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier has already forwarded a petition from Mr. Henry M. Grey for some remission of his sentence.

I am to add that this application is now under consideration.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 61.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 26.)

(No. 178.)
My Lord, *Brussels, August 25, 1898.*

ON receipt of Mr. Balfour's telegram of the 22nd instant, directing me to ask for the attendance before the Court at Gibraltar, on the 5th proximo, of the two Belgian witnesses from Antwerp who had lately given evidence before the British Consular Court at Tangier, I addressed to the Minister of Finance the letter, copy of which is inclosed, and, as time was pressing, I asked Mr. Welby to take my letter to the Ministry and see the officials in charge of these matters.

I had the pleasure of telegraphing to your Lordship the day before yesterday that the two witnesses would be at Gibraltar as desired, and I have the honour to forward herewith copy of the letter I received last night from M. de Smet de Naeyer, informing me that he had given all the necessary orders.

Your Lordship will notice that in my letter to his Excellency I had considerably amplified the telegram sent to me, in order that his Excellency might understand at once what sort of evidence the men were expected to give.

I have explained in my despatch No. 132 of the 19th June that this is necessary in the case of Belgian Government officials summoned to act as witnesses before a foreign Court.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 61.

Sir F. Plunkett to M. de Smet de Nayer.

Légation de Sa Majesté Britannique, Bruxelles, le 22 Août, 1898.

M. le Ministre,

ME référant à la gracieuse communication de votre Excellence du 22 Juin, autorisant les Sieurs Cassart et Van Gaver à se rendre à Tanger pour être entendus devant la Cour Consulare dans l'affaire du steam-yacht "Tourmaline," j'ai l'honneur, par ordre de mon Gouvernement, de faire de nouveau appel aux bons offices de votre Excellence.

Un procès a été intenté contre Major Spilsbury, qui était le chef de cette expédition, et commencera à Gibraltar, le Lundi, 5 Septembre; le Procureur de la Reine ("Attorney-General") désire vivement que les mêmes deux témoins Belges soient autorisés à y assister.

J'ai donc reçu les ordres télégraphiques du Foreign Office de prier le Gouvernement Belge de vouloir bien permettre à ces deux personnes de se rendre à l'audience le 5 du mois prochain à Gibraltar, et d'y donner leur témoignage sur les faits qu'ils ont constaté à Anvers pendant le chargement de la "Tourmaline."

J'espère que votre Excellence pourra accorder cette faveur à mon Gouvernement, et je la prie d'agréer, &c.

(Signé) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 61.

M. de Smet de Naeyer to Sir F. Plunkett.

Ministère des Finances, Bruxelles, le 24 Août, 1898.

M. le Ministre,

DÉFÉRANT au désir exprimé par votre Excellence, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que je viens de donner les ordres nécessaires pour que le Sieur Cassart, Vérificateur des Douanes à Verviers, et le Sieur Van Gaver, Sous-Brigadier des Douanes à Anvers, se rendent à Gibraltar en vue d'y être entendus comme témoins, le 5 Septembre prochain, dans l'affaire dont vous m'entretenez par votre office du 22 Août courant.

Il va de soi que, comme précédemment, les frais de voyage et de séjour de ces deux agents seront remboursés par le Gouvernement Britannique.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) P. DE SMET DE NAEYER.

No. 62.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 27.)

(No. 52.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, August* 27, 1898.

GLOBE Venture Case.

Your Lordship's telegram No. 34 of the 24th instant.

The exact date on which witnesses should arrive cannot yet be fixed by Attorney-General.

As soon as day is settled I will telegraph to your Lordship.

No. 63.

Mr. Balfour to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 82.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 27, 1898.

I HAVE received the despatch No. 113, Confidential, which you addressed to the Marquess of Salisbury on the 11th instant, reporting a conversation which you had with two emissaries from El Bashem, the Shereef of Tasserawalt, relating to the proceedings of the Globe Venture Syndicate, and I approve the language held by you on that occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. BALFOUR.

No. 64.

Mr. Balfour to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 83.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 27, 1898.

I HAVE received the despatch No. 110 which you addressed to the Marquess of Salisbury on the 9th instant, reporting that you had heard that public sales of slaves were occurring at Rabat and Saffi, and I approve the communication which you addressed to the Grand Vizier on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. BALFOUR.

No. 65.

Mr. Balfour to Sir F. Plunkett.

(No. 80.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, August* 27, 1898.

I HAVE received your telegram No. 7 of the 23rd instant, and I have to request you to convey my thanks to the Minister of Finance for the readiness with which he has permitted the witnesses from Antwerp to attend the forthcoming trial of Major Spilsbury at Gibraltar.

It is possible that their attendance may not be required so soon as the 5th September, but Sir A. Nicolson has been consulted on this point by telegraph, and his reply will be immediately communicated to you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. J. BALFOUR.

No. 66.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received August* 29.)

(No. 115.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 15, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 74 of the 28th May last, I have the honour to report that the Grand Vizier has agreed that a Mixed Commission should sit at Dar-al-Baida to adjudicate on British claims arising out of the M'zab disturbances in 1896.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 67.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 29.)

(No. 117.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 20, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 78 of the 10th June, I have the honour to report that the Diplomatic Body here have agreed to a draft collective note, which I submitted to their approval, being addressed to the Grand Vizier drawing his Excellency's attention, in an officious and friendly manner, to the conditions of the prisons in Morocco. The note points out that in many prisons there is great overcrowding, that sanitary precautions are neglected, and that the poorer prisoners are often in want of the necessary food. It is suggested that orders be sent to all the provincial Governors to prevent an excessive number of prisoners being lodged in one gaol, to periodically cleanse and whitewash the prisons, and to see that every prisoner, no matter what his crime or social position may be, should never be in want of sufficient and wholesome nourishment. It is also proposed that, to ensure the proper execution of these orders, periodical prison inspections be made by functionaries appointed for that purpose.

I am happy to add that all my colleagues cordially agree to this communication being made to the Grand Vizier; and the doyen of the Diplomatic Body will sign it in our names.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 68.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 29.)

(No. 118.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 22, 1898.

THE Spanish Minister informs me that he intends visiting all the Spanish posts on the north coast of Morocco, as well as all the Moorish posts, in the Spanish man-of-war the "General Valdes" which anchored in this port this morning. I understand that M. de Ojeda desires by making an official tour in a man-of-war to efface as far as possible the impression produced on the authorities and natives of this country by the results of the recent war.

M. de Ojeda proposes to leave to-morrow morning.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 69.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 36.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, September* 2, 1898.

SPILSBURY case.

Belgian witnesses from Antwerp have left for Gibraltar, and will have to be provided for.

Please inform Attorney-General.

No. 70.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 85.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 3, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 117 of the 20th ultimo reporting that the Diplomatic Body at Tangier have agreed to the draft collective note to the Grand Vizier on the condition of prisons in Morocco which you have submitted to your colleagues, and I have to express my approval of your action in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 71.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 5.)

(No. 119.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 25, 1898.

WITH reference to former correspondence, I have the honour to report that my note to the Grand Vizier, which was drawn up in the terms sanctioned in your Lordship's despatch No. 71 of the 27th ultimo, regarding the detention of certain British-protected persons, reached his Excellency on the 10th instant.

The Grand Vizier has sent me a verbal reply through a third person, with many protestations of friendship, and begging that some little time be accorded to him, and that he will then take such steps as will fully satisfy both Her Majesty's Government and the Legation. In the meantime I have received information from Saffi, dated the 20th instant, that the imprisoned men are in heavy chains, and are suffering severely from ill-treatment and continued detention.

I do not understand the request of the Grand Vizier for further delay, as he is well aware that by Treaties the authorities have no right to lay hands on semsars. I have conveyed to him, through the intermediary whom he employed for his communication, that he should at once send strict and urgent orders to the Governors and Deputy Governors to release the men without delay, and that the compensation demanded should be paid up to the date of their release.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 72.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 5.)

(No. 120.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 25, 1898.

I HAVE received the following notes from a gentleman who perhaps has greater knowledge of Morocco than any other European, and who has recently been making a tour in some of the provinces.

He states that he gathers from conversations with the Governors that the Moorish Government is ready to pay compensation for the imprisoned British protégés, but wishes to keep them in detention as long as possible as an example to others who wish to become connected with Europeans. He adds: "The country is in a dreadful state. No man is safe, neither is his property. Matters are becoming daily worse. The prisons are overfilled, and prisoners are dying daily from being overcrowded in dungeons without any ventilation whatever. The rich Province of Abda is becoming quite desolate; also other provinces. On the appearance of anybody who could raise the banner of insurrection, the tribes would undoubtedly and immediately flock round him and overturn the present Government."

This picture in outline is, from what I hear from other sources, not exaggerated, and, I fear, will shortly be applicable to the whole country, as the Government is sending out several expeditions to visit those provinces which have hitherto been left comparatively undisturbed.

Want of unity between the tribes will effectually prevent any combination strong enough to resist the Government, but the intervention of any foreign Power would be gladly welcomed by many.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 73.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received September* 5.)

(No. 121.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 30, 1898.

THE Attorney-General of Gibraltar informs me that he trusts that on the 5th proximo a date will be fixed for the trial of Major Spilsbury, and, although he hears that the defence will apply for a considerable adjournment, he hopes that no prolonged delay will occur, as he will object to any lengthy remand.

Mr. Fawkes suggests that the witnesses from Antwerp should be ready to start on a telegraphic summons, and he presumes that a week's notice to them will be sufficient.

Mr. Fawkes would further be much obliged if the witness who proved Major Spilsbury's letters at the Bow Street Police Court could also attend for a similar purpose at Gibraltar. As the letters of Major Spilsbury are very material evidence, the Attorney-General attaches great importance to being able to prove them and put them in as evidence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 74.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received September* 5.)

(No. 122.)
My Lord, *Tangier, August* 30, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 54 of the 20th April, the Italian Minister informed me yesterday that the question of the indemnities to be paid to his and the Portuguese Governments on account of the piracy cases was still under discussion.

Under instructions from his Government he had sent a somewhat peremptory note to the Moorish Government demanding payment of the indemnity, and the Grand Vizier, in reply, had informed him and the Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires that Mohammed-ben-Saïd, Governor of Sallee, had been commissioned to arrange the matter with them.

The discussions which he had held with the Moorish Delegate had, so M. de Malmusi told me, hitherto led to no results. In the first place Ben Saïd had urged that the indemnities should be reduced in amount, and on this proposal being refused, he had suggested that a certain sum should be paid on account within six months, and the remainder within nine months. The Italian and Portuguese Representatives were authorized to agree that a term of three months should be accorded for the payment of the total amounts, and gave Ben Saïd to understand that this was the utmost concession that their Governments were prepared to grant. The Moorish Delegate stated at the last interview that he was not empowered to modify his proposals, and has referred the question to the Moorish Government for further instructions.

It is hardly likely that a reply will be received from the Court before three or four weeks' time, and should this reply not be final and satisfactory, M. de Malmusi appeared to think that his Government would take very serious notice of the dilatory tactics of the Grand Vizier. The Portuguese Representative is acting in conjunction with M. de Malmusi in the matter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 75.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received September* 6.)

(No. 53.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, September* 6, 1898.

GLOBE Venture case.

It has been decided by the Judge that the trial shall be held under the Morocco Order in Council with assessors, if desired, but without a jury.

In order to request leave to appeal to Privy Council defence has asked for an adjournment, the length of which will probably be a month, but will be decided to-morrow.

As Major Spilsbury has engaged to admit, in writing, quantity of arms shipped at Antwerp and landed on coast, the Antwerp witnesses are being sent back; apparently this is being done to overcome Attorney-General's objections to a lengthy detention of the witnesses from Antwerp and a long adjournment.

No. 76.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received September* 7.)

(No. 54.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, September* 7, 1898.

GLOBE Venture Case.

Reference to my telegram No. 53 of the 6th instant: Major Spilsbury's bail has been increased to 1,000*l.* with two sureties of 500*l.* each.

In order to allow appeal to Privy Council the case has been adjourned till the 1st December.

No. 77.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir F. Plunkett.

(No. 85.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 7, 1898.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 178 of the 25th ultimo, I transmit to you a copy of a telegram received from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier,* stating that the witnesses from Antwerp required for the trial of Major Spilsbury at Gibraltar are being sent back, as the defendant has engaged to admit in writing the quantity of arms shipped at Antwerp and landed on the Sûs coast.

I should wish you to explain these circumstances to the Belgian Government, and to express my regret at the unnecessary trouble to which the Belgian authorities and the witnesses have been subjected.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 78.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 87.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 10, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 114 of the 14th ultimo, transmitting the opinion of the Chief Justice of Gibraltar on the petition of Henry Grey for a remission of the remainder of his sentence, which was inclosed in your despatch No. 106 of the 29th July last.

I request that you will cause the prisoner to be informed that the Secretary of State, after consulting the Judge who tried the case, can see no sufficient ground for a mitigation of the punishment which he is undergoing.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 79.

Foreign Office to Mr. Robert Grey.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 10, 1898.

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 23rd ultimo, relative to your son's petition for a remission of the remainder of his sentence, I am directed by the Secretary of State to inform you that, having consulted the Chief Justice of Gibraltar, the Judge who tried the case, he can see no sufficient ground for the mitigation of the punishment which your son is undergoing.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 80.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 12.)

(No. 123. Confidential.)
My Lord, *Tangier, September* 3, 1898.

I HAVE received private information from the Court, which the Grand Vizier desired to communicate to me, that he had sent orders to the Sultan's deputy here to inform the foreign Representatives that the Moorish Government intends to open a port in the Sûs district without delay. I have been, through a private channel, recommending his Excellency to adopt this measure as one which is most desirable from many points of view, and if it be carried into effect it should assist commercial interests very considerably. The instructions have not yet reached the Sultan's deputy, but I trust the Grand Vizier will not abandon his wise intention.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 81.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 12.)

(No. 124.)
My Lord, *Tangier, September 5*, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith an extract from the "Al Moghreb al Aksa," reporting the treatment to which prisoners were subjected on their transfer from the overcrowded prison at Mazagan to Morocco city.

Similar accounts have appeared in other local papers, and I have taken steps for bringing the matter unofficially to the notice of the Grand Vizier, pointing out the impression which such acts produce on civilized public opinion, and urging his Excellency to insist upon all prisoners being humanely treated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 81.

Extract from the "Al Moghreb al Aksa" of September 3, 1898.

MOORISH ATROCITIES.

(From our Correspondent.)

Mazagan, August 27, 1898.

AGAIN we have had the sad experience of a most barbarous spectacle offered by the native authorities in the act of preparing the unfortunate prisoners, who were brought some time ago from the Riff coast, for transportation to Marrakesh.

These poor Bocoya people, numbering nearly 250, including a large proportion of aged and decrepit persons, and even boys, in company with another batch of about 150 prisoners, who were sent here from the neighbouring province of Abda, and others from different districts, making a total of about 500, had been lodged in a dungeon, which, humanely speaking, could barely hold 100 persons. The only air inlet of this den of death being a small iron-grated skylight in the centre. The sufferings of the poor inmates, particularly in the present hot season, must have been horrible. There was no room for them to lie down, and they had necessarily to keep standing for many days. A roar of voices that could be heard from the surroundings from time to time, and three or four dead that have been taken out almost daily from this dungeon for interment during the summer, testify to the amount of torture that these poor people have had to endure.

This week those belonging to the Bocoya tribe were taken out to be heavily fettered and removed to the southern capital. The sight was one of horror, as they appeared to be simply a procession of spectres half covered with dirty rags, many of them falling, as, owing to their miserable state of weakness, they could not stand, and most of them had to close their eyes, unable as they were to bear the glare of daylight. The stench emanating from their bodies and rags was unbearable, and no doubt this is one of the causes that have contributed to develop the typhoid fever now so prevalent.

Two heaps of pieces of iron chain, with two collars each, were there near the town gate ready for the prisoners, who repeatedly called out in anguish for water and bread! The barbarous operation of fettering these martyrs was then performed by several soldiers, and links were pinned by hammer, causing severe pain and unnecessary torture to the unfortunate creatures, who cried and trembled in agony. Many were wounded on the ankles and feet through badly aimed hammering, and this barbarous treatment, which lasted three days, and raised considerable indignation among the European residents, did not move in the least the feelings of the native authorities. At last the wretched creatures were placed on camels, and, escorted by a number of soldiers, commenced the still more painful experience of the road to Morocco city, in which they have to suffer from heat, thirst, hunger, the unbearable shaking of camel, their iron fastenings, and, above all, the merciless treatment of the Moorish soldiers, to which a large number of these unfortunate beings will succumb.

These Bocoya prisoners are composed of the aged and infirm, as well as of a number of lads and boys, and even women, all helpless people who were unable to escape the snare prepared for them by the Shereefian troops on the Riff coast. Those that were responsible for the piratical acts, whom the Sultan pretended to punish, were able-bodied men, and lacking no means of defence, fled to the mountains, where they defy the Government's authority.

The prisoners remaining at Mazagan gaol, mostly proceeding from Abda, are innocent people, well-to-do agriculturalists, who, after having been squeezed of all that the Kaïds could lay their hands on, are to be kept in prison until any further property they may have concealed is found.

Such is the Moorish Administration and its principles of justice! And yet this Government is frequently visited and invariably shown all respect and consideration by the Representatives of the great Christian Powers; but we never hear of any serious remonstrance against the barbarous outrages which are a matter of daily occurrence in this so-called Empire, and which may be considered as a disgrace to humanity and civilization.

No. 82.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received September* 12.)

(No. 316.)

My Lord, *Madrid, September* 9, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a series of notes by the Military Attaché, principally on the subject of Spanish interests and rights in Morocco, and in continuation of previous remarks of mine on the same subject.

I have, &c.

(For Sir Henry Drummond Wolff),

(Signed) G. BARCLAY.

Inclosure in No. 82.

Notes by Major White.

1. *Tour of Inspection by the Spanish Minister in Morocco.*

August 23, 1898.—The Spanish Minister, Señor Ojeda, accompanied by Colonel Alvarez, Chief of the Topographical Commission, and Lieutenant Galvez (navy), one of the members, embarked on board the "General Valdez" at Tangier. "They proceed on a visit of inspection of the Spanish possessions in Africa, and on a special Government Mission" ("Liberal," August 24, 1898) "to visit the Riff Coast and the fortress of Melilla."—("Imparcial," August 25, 1898.)

August 25.—Arrived at Melilla at 6 P.M. Should have arrived at 5 A.M., but got aground in a fog off Cape Tres Forcas, getting off again by her own exertions.

Señor Ojeda held conferences with the Military Governor of the fortress and with the Basha of Melilla.

After leaving Melilla, Señor Ojeda will proceed to the Chafarine Islands, to Alhucemas, and to the Peñon de Velez de la Gomera. He will afterwards visit the fortresses of Ceuta and Tetuan, and, on the coast of Spain, those of Tarifa and perhaps that of Algeciras.—("Ejercito Español," August 31, 1898.)

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2. *French and Spanish influence in Morocco.* (*Précis from the "Ejercito Español" of August* 31, 1898.)

It is said that France, in opposition to Germany, wishes to extend her influence to the mouth of the Muluya, and that, in Algeria, opinion is unanimously in favour of Spain and against the Germans.

It is also said that, as the Spanish mission in America is finished, Spain must look for an opening in Morocco.

The Shereefian troops have returned to the Bocoya and have committed brutalities.

The Moors of Bocoya wish well to Spain, but cannot bear the French, for they say that France deceives them and takes their young men for the army of Algeria.

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3. *Sending of young men to Europe from Morocco.* (*From the "Imparcial" of August* 31, 1898.)

To the Sultan is attributed the proposition to send shortly to Europe several Moroccan youths for instruction in different arts and sciences, especially those concerning artillery and navigation.

The motive of this is stated to be the idea of the Moroccan Government to have at its disposal competent persons in the country who could take charge of armed vessels for the permanent surveillance of the Riff Coast, the cause of many of the remonstrances that daily place the Shereefian Court in a very difficult position.

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4. *The Interests and Rights of Spain in Morocco.* (*Translated from the "Imparcial" of August* 24, 1898.)

The "Presse" of Paris publishes some confidential communications from Dr. Monribot, whom it calls the medical attendant and confidential friend of the King, Don Francisco, on the subject of the situation in Spain, given with the authorization of his royal friend.

The paragraph of these confidences which has attracted most attention is as follows:—

"In the midst of unmerited misfortunes Spain will not despair.

"Her Statesmen see in Morocco, in the future, a compensation for the loss of her Colonies which have been torn from her by America without a semblance of right.

"A diplomat, who lately occupied an eminent position, laid the foundation (sentó las bases) for a French, Russian, and Spanish alliance against the influence of Germany and England in Morocco.

"The most important clauses of this new triple alliance, which was for some time the ambition of M. Hanotaux, were recently discussed in Madrid, in St. Petersburgh, and with M. Felix Faure at Havre.

"The interests and the rights of Spain in Morocco are only equalled by those of France. The interests and the rights of Germany and England must be relegated to a secondary place.

"It is in Morocco that the epilogue of the Hispano-American war has to take place and will take place."

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5. *The Markets of Morocco.*

The newspaper "Africa," of Ceuta, received to-day in Madrid, publishes an article to show that Spain, now that she is losing much of her commercial relationship with America, should try to increase her relationship with Morocco.

Amongst other things it says:—

"Nothing would be easier than to arrange for the establishment of a Moroccan Custom-house here (Ceuta). It would be sufficient to show the Sultan the enormous gain to his Treasury by being the first to accede to the petitions of a friendly and neighbouring country, and, if he does not accept the offer, denounce the Treaty of Wad-Ras, as we have the right to do.

"By opening the trade with Morocco and Europe through Ceuta, the position of this place would change at once, capital would pour in on all sides, and, in a short time, what is to-day the silent sentry guarding the iron gates of a rich treasure-house, would be transformed into a rich trading centre.

"More damage would be caused to proud Calpe by opening up this route to universal trade than by installing hundreds of heavy guns on the coast of the Straits. Gibraltar exists only on the trade of Morocco. If this was nullified by Ceuta, it would only remain a rock covered with useless fortifications, an object of interest to idealists."—("Heraldo," September 6, 1898.)

(Signed) W. L. WHITE, *Major*,
Military Attaché.

Madrid, September 8, 1898.

No. 83.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 13.)

(No. 125.)

My Lord, *Tangier, September* 7, 1898.

THE Chief Justice of Gibraltar gave his decision on the 5th instant in regard to the form of trial to be applied in the case of Major Spilsbury. I have the honour to transmit copy of this decision, by which the Chief Justice ruled that he could only act under the Morocco Order in Council, which provided for a trial with assessors, but not with a jury. The Chief Justice pointed out that the defendant, by his own action, had deprived himself of the opportunity of a trial by jury, as if the preliminary examination had been held at Tangier, the case could then have been remitted for trial to Gibraltar where a jury would naturally have sat.

The defence asked for an adjournment to enable them to request leave of Her Majesty in Council to appeal to Her Majesty in Council against the decision of the Chief Justice.

The length of the adjournment for this purpose is to be settled to-day, but I am informed it will probably be for a month.

The witnesses from Antwerp have arrived at Gibraltar; but the Attorney-General considers that he will not require them as Major Spilsbury has, I understand, engaged to state, in writing, the quantity of arms and ammunition he embarked at Antwerp, and also the amount which he landed on the Sus coast. He maintained to the Attorney-General that he had already given these particulars in some letters to the War Office, and it would be of great advantage if all the original letters of Major Spilsbury to the War Office, as mentioned in my telegram No. 48 of the 10th ultimo, could be sent to the Attorney-General at Gibraltar.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 83.

In the Supreme Court of Gibraltar.

Queen v. *Spilsbury.—Monday, September* 5, 1898.

ON the 22nd August last Albert Gybbon Spilsbury was brought before this Court, in the custody of Arthur Haire, Chief Inspector in the London Police, and the Court was asked to appoint some person to receive the prisoner, there being produced to the Court a warrant from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, to which is attached an office copy of an order made by the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice in England, directing the removal of the prisoner into the jurisdiction of this Court, under the provisions of "The Fugitive Offenders Act, 1881."

On this occasion the Attorney-General of Gibraltar appeared in the interests of the prosecution, and the defendant Spilsbury was represented by Mr. Ballou, Counsel of this Court.

There having been produced to this Court further papers in the matter, that is to say, the sworn information of A. M. Madden taken on the 6th July, 1898, in the Consular Court for Morocco, and a warrant of the same date for the arrest of the defendant, signed by Sir Arthur Nicolson, Consul-General in Morocco, this Court made two orders, one for the custody of the defendant Spilsbury, and the other admitting the defendant to bail.

A somewhat desultory discussion then took place as to the procedure which should be adopted on the trial of the defendant in this Court, more especially as regards the question of whether the defendant would be entitled to a trial by jury, and I intimated to Counsel that I would be prepared to state my opinion as to the mode of procedure on the present date. This I am prepared to do, but there should be some definite application before the Court, made either on behalf of the prosecution or defence, so that what I have now to say may have the effect of a definitive judgment of the Court. I say this because, fortunately, whatever decision I come to may be reviewed elsewhere.

The application made this morning by Mr. Ballou, however, cures this defect.

After careful consideration, I have come to the conclusion that the method of procedure in this case must be according to the Morocco Order in Council, and the rules of procedure made thereunder, which apply to the trial of indictable cases where the case is not sent up for trial to the Supreme Court, under the provisions of the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts, that is to say, the trial must be by the Court, with or without assessors, and not by the Court and a jury.

This case has been removed to the jurisdiction of this Court by the Court of Queen's Bench in England exercising the powers conferred on a superior Court by section 35 of "The Fugitive Offenders Act, 1881." To enable such an order to be made it was necessary to be shown that Gibraltar was a place where the offence charged in this case can be tried, and the Lord Chief Justice of England in his judgment evidently considered that Gibraltar was such a place, citing, in support of the proposition, a considerable portion of the 11th section of the Morocco Order in Council, which confers upon this Court an original concurrent jurisdiction with the Court for Morocco in criminal matters arising within the limits of the Order. But the jurisdiction given by this section to this Court has its limitations and conditions:

1. It cannot be exercised at all except at the request or with the consent of the Consul-General, or the Secretary of State; and

2. It has to be exercised subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Order, and subject to any rules of procedure made under the Order.

Undoubtedly this Court has, in certain circumstances, jurisdiction to try offences committed in Morocco, and to try them with a jury. In certain cases mentioned in the 39th section of the Order in Council, the Consul-General may send the case for trial in the Supreme Court, under section 4 of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act of 1843. In these cases it is the Imperial statute which provides for the method of procedure, and gives authority to this Court to try and determine the offence as if it had been committed within the jurisdiction of this Court. Care was, however, especially taken in section 40 of the Morocco Order in Council to provide for the preliminary examination of the accused being taken in the Consular Court. In this case it appears, from the Order of the Queen's Bench Division, that a warrant for the removal of this defendant to Tangier was issued by Mr. Lushington, one of the Metropolitan Police Magistrates. Under that warrant the defendant might have been taken to Tangier, the preliminary examination of the accused might have been held in the Consular Court, and the case sent up for trial here at the Criminal Sessions of the Court with a jury, in the ordinary way. That warrant has been practically superseded by the order and warrant of the Queen's Bench Division, and the defendant has by his own action, therefore, deprived himself of the opportunity of trial by jury in Gibraltar, and the exercise of jurisdiction by this Court in the manner provided by the Foreign Jurisdiction Act. The only way, therefore, in which it can be said that the case can be tried here, is to be found in the terms of section 11 of the Order in Council, which gives this Court an original concurrent jurisdiction.

I have read carefully "The Fugitive Offenders Act, 1881," with a view of finding, if I could, a provision in the Imperial statute similar to that contained in section 4 of "The Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1843," which would enable this Court to try the offence as if it had been committed here. I do not, however, find any such provision. The nearest approach to such a provision are the words of section 23 of the Act which says:—[read section 23]; and I was at first inclined to think that possibly this section might be invoked in aid of cases of removal under section 35, and that the case might be dealt with here as if the alleged offence had been committed here, in which case the ordinary procedure before the Magistrate and this Court would have been applicable, but on reading the next section, section 24, I am satisfied that section 35 does not provide for the place of trial of a person accused of an offence within the meaning of section 23.

Counsel for the defendant drew my attention to section 6 of the same Act, which provides that the fugitive offender on being returned to that part of Her Majesty's dominion from which he is a fugitive, is to be dealt with in due course of law as if he had been there apprehended, but this confers no new jurisdiction, and does not specify any mode of trial different from that which would have been applicable had the offender become fugitive from this jurisdiction. I find that in all cases where an Act of Parliament makes an offence triable in some other place from that in which it was committed, it is the law which confers the jurisdiction which describes how the offence is to be tried.

The Merchant Shipping Acts, the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts, and the Fugitive Offenders Act itself, are examples of this; what then is the statute which gives me jurisdiction in this case, and does it provide a method of procedure? It appears to me clear that the jurisdiction which I have to exercise in this case is the concurrent original jurisdiction given to this Court by section 11 of the Morocco Order in Council. In that same section I find provision made as to procedure which I think is binding upon me, and which I must follow, so that however willing this Court might be to give the defendant an opportunity of pleading his defence before a Gibraltar jury I must hold that the defendant must take his trial before this Court, sitting with or without assessors, and that the trial cannot be with a jury.

No. 84.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received September* 14.)

(No. 55.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, September* 14, 1898.

GLOBE Venture Case.

May I make the payments mentioned in my despatch No. 98 of the 9th July?

No. 85.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 88.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 14, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatches Nos. 98 and 101 of the 9th and 13th July last relating to the various expenses incurred on account of the prosecution of the "Tourmaline" prisoners, and I sanction the discharge of these liabilities and your drawing a bill on the Chief Clerk for 124*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.*, the amount in question. The amount should be charged in your quarterly account with this Office.

I also approve of your charging the other minor expenses which may have been incurred, including the cost of the maintenance of the prisoners in prison at Gibraltar, in the quarterly accounts of your Consulate-General.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 86.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 89.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 14, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 119 of the 25th ultimo, reporting the verbal reply which you have received from the Grand Vizier regarding the detention of certain British-protected persons.

I approve the terms of the message which you have sent to his Excellency on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 87.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received September* 17.)

(No. 327.)
My Lord, *Madrid, September* 15, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith some notes by the Military Attaché on the subject of the Spaniards in Morocco, to which I draw your attention.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. DRUMMOND WOLFF.

Inclosure in No. 87.

Notes by Major White.

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1. *Health of the Sultan; Spanish Protectorate in Bocoya* ("*El Imparcial*," *September* 11, 1898).

Cadiz, September 10, 1898.

NEWS from a reliable source received here from Tangier states in a positive manner that, in spite of what has been said to the contrary, it is certain that the Sultan of Morocco is seriously ill.

The persons who surround him carefully conceal his condition from the people.

But it is known that the great Sovereign is devoured by intense and persistent fever, which has reduced him to a state of extreme debility, and threatens his existence.

The Spanish Minister, Señor Ojeda, will probably continue, to-morrow, his visit to the ports on the coast of Morocco.

It is known that he is working skilfully to arrange that the Bocoya tribe shall place itself under the protectorate of Spain.

It appears that France and Germany are both desirous of establishing a Protectorate over the same tribe, and that France puts forward, as a better right, the proximity of Algeria to the territory of the said tribe.

2. *Tour of Inspection of the Spanish Minister* ("*El Liberal*," *September* 12, 1898).

Cadiz, August 10, 1898.

The "General Valdez" has left Cadiz bound for Tangier. The Spanish Minister, Señor Ojeda, was on board to finish his visit to the coasts of Morocco.

3. *Tour of Inspection of the Spanish Minister* ("*El Liberal*," *September* 15, 1898.)

Tangier, September 14, 1898.

Señor Ojeda, accompanied by Señor Saavedra, Interpreter to the Legation; Don J. Ojeda, Attaché; Señor Alvarez, Chief of the Topographical Commission; and Señor Galvez, Naval Attaché, embarked on the "General Valdez."

They start for Algeciras, whence they will follow the whole of the Moroccan coast, visiting some of the coast towns, where they will put in an appearance.

Some people attribute the journey to the task of searching for the territory called "Santa Cruz de Marpequena,"* in order to take immediate possession of it; but persons at the Legation say nothing to confirm this idea.

(Signed) W. L. WHITE, *Major*,
Military Attaché.

Madrid, September 15, 1898.

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* Extract from "Report on Morocco," Intelligence Department, 1890, p. 30:—Somewhere between the mouth of the Sus and that of the Dra, the Spaniards have been granted by the Treaty of 1860* a fishing station, named Santa Cruz de Marpequena. The position of this station has never been very clearly fixed, but is considered to be immediately north of Cape Nun. The tribes in this neighbourhood are quite independent, and the deed of gift from the Sultan would by no means secure possession to Spain.
The Spaniards are still, apparently, "searching" for this property.

* Treaty of Wad Ras, Article VIII.

No. 88.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received September* 19.)

(No. 126.)

My Lord, *Tangier, September* 9, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to report that Ci Allal Abdi, the French Consular Agent at Tetuan has left that post, and it is reported that he is to obtain some employment in Tunis or Algeria.

Private information has reached me that the French authorities are displeased with the active part Ci Allal Abdi took in recruiting certain of the Bocoyan tribes for service in the Algerian army, and disapprove of the promises which he is alleged to have given to the Bocoyans that the French Government would protect them from any punitive measures the Moorish Government might contemplate against them.

I am informed, but I have no means of testing the accuracy of my information, that most of the Bocoyan recruits, after receiving the bounty promised to them, deserted from Algerian territory, and considerable embarrassment has been caused at Oran by the arrival of the 300 Bocoyan refugees whose departure I reported in my despatch No. 87 of the 17th June.

On the other hand, I am told that the punishment which the Moorish Government has recently inflicted on the Bocoyan tribe has shaken the confidence of all the Riff tribes in the good-will of the French authorities.

The Spanish Minister, who has recently returned from a visit to Alhucemas, tells me that the Moorish forces have practically exterminated the Bocoyans, with the exception of a few who were able to escape to the mountains.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 89.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received September* 19.)

(No. 127.)

My Lord, *Tangier, September* 19, 1898.

WITH reference to former correspondence, I have the honour to report that I am informed that the authorities at Mogador have received orders to have built, on a site reserved for the purpose, houses to accommodate 300 Jewish families.

The houses will be built at the expense of the Sultan, and will be let at almost nominal rent. A leading member of the Jewish community at Mogador tells me that it is intended to select the poorest families as tenants; and there is no doubt that this measure will greatly relieve the overcrowding in the Mellah, and remedy, to a great extent, an evil of long standing.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 90.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received September* 19.)

(No. 128. Confidential.)

My Lord, *Tangier, September* 10, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to transmit translation of a letter which a missionary lady has communicated to me, and which may be of some interest, as it relates to some alleged proceedings of the French in the Figuig district.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 90.

Letter from Figuig.

(Translation from Arabic.)

(After compliments)

AND now I will inform you about the subject between us since I sent the first courier about the truth of the matter, so know that it is true that the French have already entered Jeniar (south of Ain Sefra, north-west of seven villages called the town of Figuig, in the border of Figuig (Province), and they are building towers and barracks for their soldiers, and they buy and sell with the Sahara people (Figuig Province is always called Sahara, and so is Tafilelt), and owing to covetousness in those, friendship has sprung up between them to such a degree that the Arab tribes of Sabach, of Tafilelt, and Sahara desert all to deal with them, bringing what they have in the walled villages, and bringing them produce in order to gain money. And Sidi M'bark (a Shereef of position, friend of Si Madany) sent me to Beni Guil to Hamed-ben-Omran, and he sent me on to the tribe of Aulad Sidi Mohammed-el-Haj, and he also wrote to Ain Mady, to the sanctuary of the Sheikh Sidi Mohammed-ben-el-Arby, and he wrote me a letter and sent me on, and I travelled to Aulad Sidi Hamze, in Aulad Sidi Essheikh (a powerful tribe), and he wrote an answer, and I brought the answers of each to Sidi M'bark, to Ain Esshair, and they all agreed they would fight the French, but would await until the time, and get ready meanwhile.

The French, too, wrote to another Shereef on hearing of this, and he wrote to Aulad Sidi Hamze, and said: "You, who are sanctuary ("zawia"), do not listen to any offers until we see how things are going to be, I beseech of you for God's sake." And Aulad Sidi Sheikh at this news rose and departed to a place between Keraza and Touats, called El Areg ("the moving sands," Island of the Touarego), three days from water, and they wrote to Sidi M'bark and to Beni Guil and said: "If you fight the French, inform us, for we will join you, please God, with cavalry and infantry, for on account of obedience to the Sultan we have moved here to be far from the French, so inform us, and do not keep us in ignorance of what is going on."

And so there came (some of) Beni Guil and Arabs of Sebach and Keraja and Candusy people, all of them to Sidi M'bark, at his Zawia (sanctuary), and they all had a conference there: "If the word of the English is with us, we will not disperse ourselves owing to the words of the French."

Then Sidi M'bark sent them away, and said to them: "Keep quiet, until you see what is going to be, please God," and then he told me to write this letter; but there is more that I cannot write for fear that the Rakkas (courier) should be robbed, and therefore I have abridged the matter, for he might also lose the letter.

No. 91.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received September* 19.)

(No. 129.)

My Lord, *Tangier, September* 12, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 125 of the 7th instant, I have the honour to report that the case against Major Spilsbury has been adjourned till the 1st December to allow the defence to request leave to appeal to Her Majesty in Council on the decision of the Chief Justice of Gibraltar, that the trial must take place under the Morocco Order in Council and without a jury.

The Attorney-General found himself in difficulties as to the Antwerp witnesses, as it was out of the question to detain them till the 1st December, and he wished to avoid the expense of another journey from Belgium. Major Spilsbury has, in view of these circumstances, written a letter, of which I beg leave to inclose a copy, in which he gives particulars as to the embarkation of arms at Antwerp, and of their disembarkation on the Sûs coast. This written admission, which Major Spilsbury gave voluntary and unsolicited, will obviate the necessity of recalling the Antwerp witnesses. The Attorney-General also thinks that he will not require the attendance of a witness to prove Major Spilsbury's handwriting, as he has the letter above referred to and also

his signatures to the bail bonds. In any case there will be ample time before the next sitting of the Court to come to a decision on this point. I may add that Major Spilsbury has been admitted to bail: himself in 1,000*l.* and two sureties of 500*l.* each.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 91.

Major Spilsbury to the Attorney-General, Gibraltar.

Sir, *Gibraltar, September* 5, 1898.

IN order to allow you to dismiss the Antwerp witnesses, in view of the possible delay caused by my appeal to the Privy Council, I beg to submit to you, herewith, my statement as to the shipment of rifles and ammunition on board my yacht the "Tourmaline."

In October, 1897, I purchased from MM. A. Schriever and Company, of Liège, 5,000 Mannlicher 11 millim. magazine rifles with bayonets, and 500,000 rounds of ammunition. At the commencement of December of the same year, I shipped in Antwerp, on board the steam-yacht "Tourmaline." 4.300 rifles and the 500 boxes of cartridges containing 1,000 each.

On arriving at Erksees, on the 6th January, 1898, I landed fifty rifles and one box of ammunition for the arming of my escort on my proposed journey to Tlirgh to see Sidi Hussein-ben-Hashem. These rifles were subsequently annexed by the tribesmen, and divided amongst them, so I was informed later on. On the 15th January, 1898, when we were cruising 4 miles off the coast to the north of Erksees, two native boats came off and asked me for rifles and ammunition, promising in exchange to bring me off Messrs. Grey, Bezerle, and Sabbah. I gave them fifteen rifles and five boxes of ammunition. On the 18th January I sent a boat ashore to bring off these gentlemen; the two sailors who manned it, Last and de Reya, each carried a rifle and a few rounds of ammunition.

On the 2nd February I landed the four Sûsis who had remained on board the yacht at Bousefen. I gave the two chief men a rifle and twenty rounds each. Subsequently, owing to the ammunition which was on the deck being damaged by the sea, we jettisoned 135 boxes.

The yacht returned to Antwerp on the 2nd April and there landed 4,200 rifles and 350 boxes of ammunition, the remaining thirty-one rifles and nine boxes of cartridges remaining on board till her arrival at Gravesend on the 26th April.

I hereby declare to the best of my recollection, supported by the entries in my diary, that this is an exact statement as to the rifles and ammunition shipped on the "Tourmaline" and the disposal of the same, and I authorize you to make any use you may deem advisable of this statement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. GYBBON SPILSBURY.

No. 92.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 91.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 19, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatches Nos. 116 and 119 of the 17th and 25th ultimo, relating to the arrests of British Semsars and Mohalats in Morocco.

In view of the further particulars contained in these communications, I authorize you to address a note to the Grand Vizier informing him that if your demands with regard to the release of these individuals and the payment of an indemnity to them are not complied with within a period of three weeks from the date of your note, you will place the matter in the hands of Her Majesty's Government, to take such steps as it may think desirable for insisting upon a proper and due observance of Treaty stipulations on the part of the Moorish Government and its provincial authorities.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 93.

Foreign Office to Admiralty.

(Confidential.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 20, 1898.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit, for the confidential information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, copies of the correspondence in print, as marked in the margin,* which has passed with Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, relative to the arrest and imprisonment of British semsars and mohalats by the provincial Moorish authorities.

These despatches show that Sir A. Nicolson has addressed a note to the Grand Vizier demanding the immediate release of the prisoners and the payment of an indemnity of 20 dollars a-day in the case of the semsars and of 10 dollars a-day in that of the mohalats.

It is now intended to authorize Her Majesty's Minister to address a further note to the Moorish Government demanding compliance with these terms within a period of three weeks from the date of this second note, and the despatch containing these instructions will be sent off on the 21st instant.

The possibility of the Moorish authorities failing to accede to these requirements must, however, be taken into account, and Sir A. Nicolson suggests that if no satisfactory reply should be received within the period stipulated, the presence of one or two ships of war at Saffi would be desirable.

Lord Salisbury would wish to be informed whether it would be convenient to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, in the event of non-compliance with the British demands, to adopt the suggestion proposed by Sir A. Nicolson.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 94.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 92.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 22, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 124 of the 5th instant, relating to the ill-treatment to which prisoners are subjected on their transfer from the prison at Mazagan to Morocco City, and I approve the unofficial communication which you have made to the Grand Vizier on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 95.

Foreign Office to Attorney-General, Gibraltar.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September* 28, 1898.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier has requested that the original correspondence which passed between the War Office and Major Spilsbury with regard to his connection with the Globe Venture Syndicate may be obtained and forwarded to you.

This has been done, and I transmit to you herewith, in a registered envelope, the correspondence referred to.

It is requested that it may eventually be returned to this Department.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

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* See Part XVII, Nos. 25 and 225; and *ante*, Nos. 2, 8, 16, 20, 23, 36, 57, and 92.

No. 96.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 30.)

(No. 344.)

Madrid, September 27, 1898.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a series of notes by the Military Attaché on the subject of the tour of inspection of the Spanish Minister in Morocco, and the accumulation of Shereefian troops on the Algerian frontier.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. DRUMMOND WOLFF.

Inclosure in No. 96.

Notes by Major White.

35.—(1.) *Will Spain seek Compensation in Morocco.*

WE read in an English paper:—

The 200,000 soldiers returning to Spain from the Colonies may very well cause a crisis in Spain, because "pronunciamentos" are the order of the day in that country, and the more so now that there are so many soldiers unemployed.

But as the Government will do its utmost to avoid occurrences of this kind, and find a motive for mobilizing its forces, it is probable that the Ministers, taking for a base the fortresses of Ceuta and Melilla, will excite disturbances in Morocco, with a view to obtaining a little popularity in their own country.

The Sultan could not resist the invasion of a European Power, or an attack coming from Spain, weak and impoverished as she is.

France and England are the most interested in this question, and it is possible that these two nations, together with perhaps Italy and Germany, will present a note to the Cabinet of Madrid if an action of this sort should be undertaken by Spain against Morocco.

They don't know us yet in Europe!—("La Correspondencia Militar," September 16, 1898.)

(2.) *Tour of Inspection of Spanish Minister. Spanish Protectorate.*

Cadiz, September 18, 1898.

A reliable authority tells me from Tangier that the Spanish Minister there, Señor Ojeda, is not starting from there to take possession of Santa Cruz de Mar Pequena. This business is in suspense for want of certain details, which prove the apathy of the Spanish Governments. The journey is in connection with the Protectorate of the Bocoya tribe by Spain.—("Imparcial," September 19, 1898.)

(3.) *Muluya: Moroccan Troops to winter at.*

Tangier, September 16, 1898.

Reports from the Riff coast state that the bodies of troops under the command of the Kaïds Bugdadi and Bashir, which are now operating against the Bocoyas, have been ordered, for political reasons, to winter at Muluya, on the French frontier, the place reported to have been ceded to Germany as a coaling station.—*Reuter.*—("Times," September 19, 1898.)

(4.) *Muluya: Moroccan Troops to winter at. Satisfaction to France.*

Tangier, September 19, 1898.

The Shereefian troops who were operating against the Bocoya tribe have received orders to move to Ansherud,* close to Muluca.†

* *Qy.* Ajerad. Wad Ajerad is the stream forming the actual boundary between Algeria and Morocco.
† *Qy.* Muluya.

From this it appears that the Sultan desires, in this manner, to give satisfaction to France, proving that the rumours circulated by the French press on the supposed cession to Germany of the territory in question are unfounded.

At the same time, the Sultan intends, by the presence of his troops, to prevent incursions into the neighbouring territory of Algiers.—("El Liberal," September 20, 1898.)

(5.) *Tour of Inspection of Spanish Minister: Recall.*

Señor Ojeda having been appointed Secretary to the Peace Commission that is to meet at Paris, a telegram was dispatched to Teneriffe, ordering him to return at once. The "General Valdes" arrived there on the 23rd from Safi and Mogador, and left again for Tangier and Cadiz on the 26th.

(6.) *Death of the Sultan: False Report of. Riff Country: Reinforcements for. French Protection: Bocoyan Tribes demand.*

Cadiz, September 23, 1898.

News from Tangier to-day states that there are twenty Kaïds in the prisons at Morocco City loaded with chains; their offence is the propagation of the unfounded report of the death of the Sultan. The latter, in order to deny the rumour, and in spite of the danger of an attack of the persistent fever from which he suffers, showed himself to his subjects, and ordered the punishment of those who had spread the false report of his death.

Large reinforcements are being organized in the Riff country to stifle the rebellion, which is engaging the serious attention of the Government, especially the action taken by the frontier tribes bordering on Algeria.

The latter have asked for French protection.

It is said that there are numerous French agents among the tribes.

Señor Ojeda had a great reception at Rabat on his arrival.—("Imparcial," September 24, 1898.)

(Signed) W. L. WHITE, *Major,*
Military Attaché.

Madrid, September 27, 1898.

No. 97.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 3.)

Downing Street, October 1, 1898.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, to be laid before the Marquess of Salisbury, copy of a letter from Mr. R. B. Cunninghame Graham suggesting that Major Spilsbury, who is now awaiting his trial at Gibraltar for an alleged offence under the Morocco Order in Council, should be tried by jury.

2. Mr. Graham has been informed that the matter is one for the consideration and decision of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and Lord Salisbury will, it is presumed, cause a reply to be addressed to him direct.

3. I am to add that the Chief Justice of Gibraltar is now in London, and that, should it be desired to consult him on the points raised by Mr. Graham, his address is—Stephen H. Gatty, Esq., 3, Queen Street, Mayfair, W.

I am, &c.

(Signed) H. BERTRAM COX.

Inclosure in No. 97.

Mr. Graham to Mr. Chamberlain.

Tangier, September 15, 1898.

Dear Mr. Chamberlain,

ON my way here I spent a day in Gibraltar. Whilst there Major Spilsbury, who is at present awaiting his trial for the affair of the "Tourmaline" on the south-west coast of Morocco (Province of Sûs), called upon me to lay the following facts before you, which

I promised to do, although personally, as a traveller and an explorer in Morocco, I was entirely opposed to the action which he took upon that occasion.

Acting under the advice of his legal representative, he succeeded in getting his trial shifted from Tangier to Gibraltar. This he did, believing that he ran risk of assassination in Tangier.

Upon this point I am not qualified to offer an opinion; but it appears that, under the Morocco Order in Council, by virtue of which he is to be tried, that it is not competent for him to have the benefit of a jury.

I cannot believe but that, even without a jury, he would have a fair trial, but the love of jury trials is so deeply engrained in British subjects, that the present proceedings have given rise to very great feelings both here and in Gibraltar. It is much commented on that, in the recent trial of Callan for attempt to murder which took place in Tangier, the benefit of a jury was not withheld; and it is contended that the present proceedings are designed to placate the jealousy of foreign Powers. Whilst not going so far myself as this, I still see plainly that there is some colour for the apprehension.

To make a long story short, one word from you would insure a jury trial.

Say the word; and I am certain that we who know these countries will be grateful to you for your assistance in enabling us to contradict the hints and innuendos which are freely showered upon us by the Germans and French (specially the French) in Tangier and throughout Morocco.

May I, as an ex-politician, propose the following dilemma to you?—

Your Government has, I understand, recognized the authority of the Sultan of Morocco as far south as Cape Bojador. If that is so, by an Article of the Treaty of Madrid, British subjects have an undoubted right to travel and to trade within that limit. If it is not the case, on what plea and under what authority, or by virtue of what jurisdiction, is Major Spilsbury to be tried?

I will not bother you further on the matter, but may assure you that I have no personal interest in the matter; I am connected in no way but as a traveller with Morocco. But I shall sincerely regret any circumstance which might in any way serve to prejudice the advancement of British interests, either here or in any portion of the world.

With many apologies for troubling you, I remain, &c.

(Signed) R. B. CUNNINGHAME GRAHAM.

P.S.—I hope you are having a good time and a good rest in America.

R. B. C. G.

No. 98.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 4.)

(No. 132.)

My Lord, *Tangier, September* 29, 1898.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 91 of the 19th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of the note which I have addressed to the Grand Vizier, demanding the release within three weeks of the British-protected persons illegally detained in confinement and the payment of indemnities by the Moorish Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 98.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Grand Vizier.

(After compliments.) *Tangier, September* 29, 1898.

ON the 4th August last I wrote to your Excellency, requesting the immediate release of two semsars and four mohalats, and the payment of an indemnity for their illegal detention, and also the payment to two other mohalats, who were arrested without the notice required by Treaties having been given, and who were respectively detained 196 days and 47 days in prison. I regret that your Excellency has sent no reply to the above-mentioned note, and that, so far as I am aware, both the

No. 97*.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 4.)

(No. 131.) *Tangier, September* 27, 1898.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch No. 123 of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to report that I learnt from the Court that instructions had been sent to Cid Mohamed Torres, the Deputy of the Sultan here, to inform the Diplomatic Body that a port was to be opened for general trade on the Sûs coast.

I inquired of Cid Mohamed Torres whether he had received such instructions; he replied in the affirmative, but that he did not propose to make the communication to the Diplomatic Body until he heard further from his Government.

He told me, confidentially, that the opening of the port was coupled with such absurd conditions that he could not bring them to the knowledge of the foreign Representatives. In the first place the Moorish Government wished him to announce that the import duties to be levied at the new port, which was to be Arksis, were to be 20 per cent. *ad valorem* instead of 10 per cent., in direct contravention of Article XII of the Commercial Treaty of 1856 with Great Britain. Other conditions were equally inadmissible; and he had written to the Grand Vizier pointing out the grave objections to the conditions which had been laid down, and which would bring but ridicule on the project, and stating that he would defer making the communication until he heard further from the Court

I told Cid Mohamed Torres that in the circumstances I thought he was acting wisely in the course he had taken.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

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semsars and the four mohalats are still in prison. I inclose a list of the semsars and mohalats, with the amount of indemnity due to them up to date. I should also mention that a youthful brother, a minor, of one semsar has also been seized, and under Article VI of the Convention of Madrid he is likewise under British protection.

I have now to inform your Excellency that unless the demands formulated by me for the immediate release of the above-mentioned individuals and the payment of the indemnification are not complied with within a period of three weeks from the date of this note, that is, by the 20th October, I shall place the matter in the hands of Her Majesty's Government to take such steps as it may think desirable for insisting upon a proper and due observance of Treaty stipulations on the part of the Moorish Government and its provincial authorities.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 98.

List of Semsars and Mohalats arrested with amount of Indemnity to be paid.

Semsars.

1. Hadj Ali-ben-Mohammed Amrani Saidi, arrested on the 16th June by Sheikh Smaine-ben-Ali-ben-Ghundor Amrani, and handed over to Kaïd Abbas-bel-Marofy-el-Amrany: number of days in detention up to the 29th September 105 days, at 20 dollars a-day, 2,100 dollars.

2. Mohammed-bil-Hadj Mukhtar Hasseeny, arrested on the 11th June by Kaïd Shteewy-ben-Teeby Hermooshi Abdi: number of days in detention up to the 29th September 110, at 20 dollars a-day, 2,200 dollars.

Mohalats.

1. Mohammed-bil-Hadj Mukhtar Hasseeny.
2. Hadj-el-Hassan-ben-Teeby Shedny.
3. Hamed-ben-Mesood Hasseny.

Minor, brother of semsar (Abdelkebir Hadj Mukhtar Hasseny).

All the above arrested on the 11th June by Kaïd Shteewy: number of days in detention up to the 29th September 110 days, at 10 dollars each, 1,100 dollars, or 4,400 dollars for the four.

4. Abselam-bil-Hadj Hoban, arrested on the 1st April by Kaïd of Saffi: number of days in detention up to the 29th September 181 days, at 10 dollars a-day, 1,810 dollars.

Mohalats arrested and subsequently released.

1. Bushaib-ben-Gilali Zerawi, arrested by Khalifa of Kaïd Hamed-ben-Sulh Gerawi, on the 13th November, 1897, released on the 21st February, 1898, 100 days in detention, 1,000 dollars. Rearrested on the 20th April, 1898, by Kaïd Hamed-ben-Sulh Gerawi, released on the 26th July, 1898: 96 days in detention, 960 dollars, or 1,960 dollars in all.

2. Ombark-bil-Harawi, arrested by the Khalifa of Kaïd-bil-Marofy-el-Amrani in February 1898, and detained 47 days, 470 dollars.

Total indemnities to be paid, 12,940 dollars.

No. 99.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 96.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 6, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 131 of the 27th ultimo reporting a conversation which you have had with Cid Mohamed Torres relating to the intended opening of a port for general trade on the Sûs coast, and I approve the language held by you on that occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 100.

Foreign Office to Admiralty.

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 6, 1898.

WITH reference to my letter of the 20th ultimo relating to the imprisonment of semsars and mohalets in Morocco, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier,* forwarding a copy of the note which he has addressed to the Moorish Government on this subject.

It will be seen from this communication that the period of three weeks which is given to the Moorish Government to comply with the demands of Her Majesty's Government expires on the 20th instant.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 101.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 10.)

(No. 133.)

My Lord, *Tangier, October* 1, 1898.

THE Spanish Minister returned here three days ago in the "General Valdes," having interrupted his visits to the Moorish ports in order to take part in the Peace Conference at Paris. M. de Ojeda had intended proceeding to the southern coast of Morocco in order to examine and determine the locality of the port of Santa Cruz de Mar Pequeña, where a fishing establishment was conceded to Spain under Article VIII of the Treaty of the 26th April, 1860. I believe that M. de Ojeda intended to claim Ifin as the port in question. He expressed himself to me as well satisfied with his journey as far as it had gone, as he is anxious of developing and extending Spanish commerce and interests in the ports of Morocco.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 102.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 10.)

(No. 134.)

My Lord, *Tangier, October* 1, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 132 of the 29th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith translation of a note which I have received from the Grand Vizier relative to the detention of British semsars and mohalats. The note is a reply to the communication which I addressed to his Excellency on the 4th August last, and reached me after the dispatch of my note, a copy of which was inclosed in my above-mentioned despatch.

I should perhaps explain, in the first place, that the contention which is frequently put forward by the Moorish Government, that the Governors are unaware that such and such an individual is a semsar or a mohalat, is untenable. In the cases of semsars,

* No. 98.

inquiry is made of the Moorish authorities whether there is any objection to the issue of a certificate, and a delay of a month is accorded for the presentation of any objection before the certificate is granted.

Lists of semsars and of mohalats are transmitted to the deputy of the Sultan here, and also to the Governors at the coast towns and Fez, so that the latter may communicate them to the Kaïds in the interior.

The note of the Grand Vizier contains many inaccuracies, and his Excellency appears to ignore that by Treaties semsars can never in any circumstances be arrested by the Moorish authorities, they being practically in the same position as foreign subjects, and that mohalats cannot be apprehended until proper notice has been given to the Consular authority.

The case of Bushaib-el-Zirawy illustrates the attitude of the Moorish Government. This man, a mohalat, was twice arrested and kept under detention for about six months in all, and only obtained his liberty after paying a ransom to the Kaïd. The Grand Vizier, in the note which I have just received, endeavours to establish that the delay in the settlement of this case lies with the British authorities. It is true that his Excellency, on the 8th July, requested that proofs be given of the amount of property held by Bushaib on behalf of his British employer, and it is also true that no reply was sent to this request. The Moorish Government had been informed that the man had been arrested without the conditions required by Treaties having been observed, and that he held considerable property belonging to his employer; and it was requested that he should be released without delay. This request was overlooked in the Grand Vizier's note of the 8th July, and it was only suggested that the Kaïd should extract from the imprisoned man what was claimed by the British merchant, a method of procedure which would have been manifestly illegal and unjust. No notice therefore was taken of it.

The Grand Vizier contends that the man had not paid his taxes, and that the Kaïd was unaware he was a mohalat. This is an explanation put forward for the first time in regard to the case. Bushaib has been on the list of mohalats for several years, and these lists, as I have explained, are regularly communicated to the Moorish authorities; if he had not paid his taxes, a word to the British Consul would have sufficed to have remedied this omission.

As to the case of Embark-el-Amrani, the note to which the Grand Vizier refers made no mention of the return of the property which had been confiscated; it merely stated that orders had been sent to the Saffi officials to attend to the matter in a suitable manner, and no notice was taken of the fact of the man having been arrested illegally and detained for forty-seven days.

With respect to the case of Hadj Hoban, I would point out that when the man was arrested Mr. Vice-Consul Hunot warned the Governor of Saffi that he was acting illegally; and Mr. Hunot having heard that it was alleged that the man owed money and was a Sheikh he made careful inquiries, and obtained notarial documents certifying to the man's good character, and to the fact of his never having been a Sheikh. The Governor of Saffi replied to Mr. Hunot that he was acting under orders from the Court, and could do nothing. The request for the man's release was made to the Moorish Government on the 11th April, but no reply was sent, and the man, so far as I am aware, is still in detention.

With regard to the semsar, Ali-al-Amrani, it is so far satisfactory to learn that he is at liberty, and that the Governor will be punished. At the same time, he has been in detention since the 16th June, and when on the 25th June I requested his release I was informed that an inquiry would be made.

The case of the semsar, Mohamed Hasseeni, and the others with him, is perhaps the most serious. I am told by Mr. Consul Maclean that he will shortly report to me officially as to the treatment to which this family has been subjected. The inquiry to which allusion is made by the Grand Vizier was a very perfunctory one, and the visit paid by the officials lasted I am told but a few hours. The detained individuals were, it is quite probable, not discovered in prison, as they are alleged to have been confined underground. It is not clear whether the individuals are yet at liberty or not.

I regret to have troubled your Lordship at such length, but I thought it desirable to notice some of the points raised in the communication from the Grand Vizier. It seems to me that the note of his Excellency leaves matters pretty well where they were, and in no wise affords a reason for modifying the demands put forward in my note of the 29th ultimo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 102.

Cid Hamed-ben-Moussa to Sir A. Nicolson.

(Tanslation.)
(After compliments.)

YOUR letter has reached, oh, intelligent friend, recalling the case of Boushaib-ben-Gilali Zirawi, whom a British subject claims is his mohalat, and complains of Kaïd Hamed-ben-Saleh Zirawi having seized him; and the case of the mohalat, Ombark-ben-el-Howari Amrani, who was seized by the Khalifa of Kaïd-ben-el-Marofi-el-Amrani; and the case of Abdslam-ben-el-Hadj Hoban, who was imprisoned by the Kaïd of Saffi; and the case of the semsar, Mohamed-ben-el-Hadj Mokhtar-el-Hasseeni, and the agents, Mohamed-ben-el-Hadj Mokhtar-el-Hasseeni, and Hadj-el-Hassen-ben-Teebi Shiedmi, and Hamed-ben-Mesoud-el-Hasseeni, who were with him; and the case of the semsar, Hadj Ali-ben-Mohamed-el-Amrani, seized by the Sheikh Ismaïl-ben-Ali-ben-Ghandor-el-Amrani.

We brought your letter and the inclosed list of indemnities which you named for each of these cases to the knowledge of His Majesty (compliments), and he considered them carefully and took cognizance of them; and he (compliments) ordered me to reply to you, oh, intelligent one, that you are aware that every case that occurs has some cause from which it springs, and that when a case has been brought before the Makhzen it has given its orders as necessitated, and to help in accordance therewith by a thorough investigation into the cause of the reason, and no negligence has occurred in any case that has transpired, and that is all that is incumbent upon the Makhzen; and if it has done its duty, then there can rightly remain no ground for a demand for indemnities; on the contrary, the ground for an indemnity must be irregular, and it is not hidden from intelligent persons such as you by reasoning of the harm that will accrue from this without reason.

As for the case of Boushaib-el-Zirawi, the Makhzen gave attention to it at once when you wrote about it, and issued the order to the Mohtasseb of Dar-al-Baida to attend to it with the Consul. At first he (the Consul) replied that he had no knowledge of the affair, and, secondly, that he found it noted down, but that he had no instructions to discuss it, and that if he did receive instructions he would inform him; he has remained silent, as we replied to you on the 8th July (18th Safar) last, so that you might instruct your Consul to show the Mohtasseb the documents of partnership and the proofs of the claimant for what is really owing to him by the Zirawi, in order that it may be obtained from him, and he (the merchant) receive his due, as the extent of the first request was to enable him to settle with him. By this you will know, oh, intelligent one, that the delay in the settlement of the case is on the side of the Consul, not on the side of the Makhzen, and as soon as he is instructed to carry out the above the discussion thereof can be finished by the power of Allah; and as to his arrest the first and second time, the Kaïd has shown that it is because he did not pay his dues, and it happened that he had no word that he was a mohalat or otherwise; and thereby it is shown that there is no reason for demanding an indemnity from this Kaïd for the Zirawi, as his arrest had a reason; if he had previous notice that he was a mohalat from His Majesty's Commissioner, Cid-el-Hadj Mohamed Torres, or the Governor of Dar-al-Baida, and he replied thereto, there would be proof against him, and if a reply from him to either of them is to be had the Makhzen would like to produce it, in order that it might speak with him. And as to the case of Embark-bel-Howari Amrani, we have previously replied to you, oh, friend, thereto at the commencement of this month, stating that a Shereefian order had been issued to return what was lost to him—first and last—through His Majesty's servants, the Saffi Oomana, viz., 50 dollars between cash and other articles, and 617 dollars, which is claimed to have been lost between ploughing and cash, as is explained in your previous letter. And as to the case of Oold Hadj Hoban, the origin thereof is that he is a Sheikh over his brethren, and he was accustomed to collect their taxes, and when the Governor asked him for what taxes he had collected he escaped and disappeared from him. He thereupon informed His Majesty of this, and orders were issued to the Governors of the seaports in the Houz that whoever of them might come across him should arrest him, amongst them the Governor of Saffi, and it happened that when he received his instructions to arrest him he arrived at Saffi, and the Consul wrote at that time to the Governor about him, but the Governor had information of his Sheikhship in his Kabila, and that he was in debt, and he replied immediately to the Consul to this effect, and that he had escaped with the money he was owing of his brethren's dues, and he did not accept him; then afterwards he arrested him; therefore

consider justly, oh, friend, the state of this case, so that you may know whether the right therein is the Government's or others. And as to the case of Ali-el-Amrani, his Governor has been compelled to present him liberated at the Shereefian Court immediately. The Makhzen will then mete out to him a fitting punishment for having seized him without cause; and as to the claim that his house and property were robbed, the Town Clerk of Saffi went out to verify the facts of this, and he found that no one had touched his house, and that he had lost nothing of his property. And as to the case of Mohamed-el-Hadj Mokhtar-el-Hasseeni and others with him—mohalats—which is the origin of this letter, you know, oh, friend, that immediately your first words about it reached the Makhzen did its utmost, inquiring about them, and sent Oomana and Notaries to inquire minutely about them, and what had happened in their case, and they went direct to the prison of their Kaïd unexpectedly, but they found not one of them there, and the Makhzen continued doing its utmost by investigation and minute inquiry about them until it discovered them and obtained possession of them, and this is the cause of the delay in replying to this letter; we will inform you, oh, friend, of the supplement of the truth of their case.

May you cease not, &c.
Finished 26 Rabia II, 1316 (15th September, 1898).

(Signed) HAMED-BEN-MOUSSA-BEN-HAMED.

No. 103.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received October 10.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, October* 10, 1898.

WITH reference to your letters of the 20th September and 6th October relating to the imprisonment of semsars and mohalats in Morocco, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the decypher of a telegram, dated the 8th October, from the Commander-in-chief, Mediterranean, reporting the dispatch of the "Hawke" and "Scylla" to Gibraltar.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

Inclosure 1 in No. 103.

Admiral Sir J. Hopkins to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) *Patras, October* 8, 1898.

YOUR No. 188.

"Hawke" leaves to-morrow for Gibraltar and is joined there by "Scylla;" will arrive there 13th October; have informed Senior Officer, Gibraltar.

Inclosure 2 in No. 103.

Admiralty to Admiral Sir J. Hopkins.

(Telegraphic.) *Admiralty, October* 8, 1898.

HER Majesty's Government have addressed a demand to Moorish Government for release of certain prisoners and payment of indemnity, and desire presence of one or two ships of war at Saffi if demand is not complied with by 20th instant. What can you arrange? Senior Officer should communicate with Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier.

No. 104.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 13.)

(No. 56.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 13, 1898.

ARRESTS of protected persons: your Lordship's telegram No. 38 of 12th instant.

The Grand Vizier received my note on the 4th instant, and in two or three days I expect a reply. Most of the men, I learn, have now been released, having suffered imprisonment for three months, thirty-six days of which were passed in dungeons underground, with most cruel ill-treatment. I would propose, therefore, to demand also that the offending Governor should be severely punished.

No. 105.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 38.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, October* 13, 1898.

ARREST of semsars.

I have received your telegram No. 56 of to-day, in which you suggest that the punishment of the offending Governor should be demanded.

I concur in your proposal.

No. 106.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 39.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, October* 13, 1898.

I CONCUR in your view of the communication received from the Grand Vizier, which was forwarded in your despatch No. 134 of the 1st instant.

The British war vessels "Scylla" and "Hawke" are due at Gibraltar to-morrow, and instructions have been issued to the Senior Naval Officer to place himself in communication with you.

No. 107.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 15.)

(No. 135.)
My Lord, *Tangier, October* 7, 1898.

I HAVE noticed of late in the press rumours, though vague and contradictory, in regard to the ill-health of the Sultan of Morocco, and I made inquiries at the Court as to whether there was any truth in these persistent reports. I am informed that His Majesty has been, and is, perfectly well, but that his mother is seriously ill. Her death might have certain political consequences, as she is a warm supporter and protectress of the Grand Vizier, and has much influence over the Sultan. Her demise would possibly encourage those who desire to see His Majesty free himself from the tutelage in which the Grand Vizier at present retains him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 108.

The London Chamber of Commerce to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 15.)

My Lord, *Botolph House, Eastcheap, London, October* 13, 1898.

IN the course of March, April, and May, 1897, I had the honour of bringing under your Lordship's notice certain complaints made by members of this Chamber in regard to difficulties they experienced in connection with the appointment of semsars in Morocco, and particularly directing attention to alleged want of support by British Consular officers as compared with the support given to foreign traders and their Agents by their Consular officers.

At a meeting of the General Purposes Committee (sitting as the Council) of this Chamber on the 29th September, a communication was presented from the members who originally raised this question, in which they state that they "are constantly having complaints" from their clients "that English interests are neglected" in Morocco, and inclosing a newspaper extract which would appear to support their allegations. I beg to append hereto copy of the extract.

The General Purposes Committee, on consideration of the matter, came to the conclusion that the case was one in which they should bring the statements before your Lordship for such observations thereon as your Lordship, after further inquiries, may be disposed to make either with or without communication with Morocco; the Committee being disposed to think that British Consular officers will accord to British traders or their representatives in Morocco as full and energetic support as is given to foreign traders and their representatives in Morocco.

I am, &c.
(Signed) KENRIC B. MURRAY,
Secretary.

Inclosure in No. 108.

Newspaper Extract.

BRITISH COMMERCIAL AGENTS OUTRAGED.—Seldom has the anti-European feeling of the so-called Moorish officials of the interior been made so manifest as during the past week, and never have we heard of such an intolerable outrage as the arrest and imprisonment of two British semsars (commercial agents), and three mokhalats (associates) in total defiance of existing Treaties and Conventions, without any regard for the personality of British subjects, or for the value of British property and commercial interests intrusted to the men.

It would appear certain that the Moorish Government officials are acting with a vigour which can only proceed from confidence, that whatever they do will be unresented, or that our resentment will once again resolve itself into a mere question of cash, quite of secondary importance in affairs of such a serious nature until the unfortunate employées are released from martyrdom, and reinstated in their homes. No one will work for us if this sort of thing is permitted, and instead of being respected and admired, as British merchants are elsewhere, we shall become despised and hated.

There can be no confusion regarding our right to speak very clearly about the eminently unsatisfactory position of British merchants under conditions which allows the sword of Damocles to be continually suspended over the heads of their protégés and employées, threatening the constant ruin of their plans, and we must protest against the feeble sentimentality of a policy (save the mark) which permits the important instruments of our commercial intercourse with the interior districts of Morocco to be intimidated or approached when once they have been handed and paid for their certificates issued by the British Legation, and signed by his Excellency the British Minister.

It is more than noteworthy that the protégés of the protégés of other nationalities engaged on trade here come and go as they please, and enjoy absolute immunity from annoyance, interference or taxation at the hands of the native local authorities, whereas well-known representatives of respectable British houses resident in the interior are denuded of their possessions, thrashed and imprisoned at the sweet will of, it is presumed, the friendly Dar-el-M'khzen.

No. 109.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 17.)

(No. 136.)
My Lord, *Tangier, October 10, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of the correspondence which has passed between the Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar and myself, relative to the dispatch of men-of-war to the Moorish coast in connection with the arrest of the British semsars and mokhalats.

I shall probably receive a reply from the Moorish Government in six or seven days, and it would be well to await its arrival before setting in motion measures of intimidation.

Moreover, I should wish, in the event of the reply proving unsatisfactory, to receive your Lordship's instructions as to the precise action which Her Majesty's Government would wish to take.

I hear, though not officially, that most of the imprisoned men have been set at liberty, and if this should prove to be the case a portion of the demands would have been satisfied. I would, at the same time, respectfully submit that the claim for the payment of indemnities should be insisted upon. The semsars, whom no Moorish authority has a right to arrest, have been kept in confinement for three months, and their mere liberation would not be a sufficient reparation.

The tendency of the Moorish Government to render protection valueless, or a privilege of small account, should be checked, as not only would provincial authorities consider that Treaty stipulations could be disregarded with impunity, but commercial transactions would be very seriously embarrassed in this country if some of their chief safeguards were removed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 109.

Captain Drury to Sir A. Nicolson.

Sir, *"Anson," at Gibraltar, October 9, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to forward the attached copy of a telegram received this day from the Commander-in-chief of the Mediterranean squadron.

The "Anson" and "Griffon" could leave to-morrow if necessary.

On the arrival of the "Hawke" and "Scylla" at Gibraltar they will probably require some coal, and, after coaling, could proceed at once to Saffi.

On the arrival of the "Hawke" and "Scylla" at Saffi I should require the "Anson" to return to Gibraltar.

Will you please inform me if these arrangements will meet your requirements, and also communicate to me any orders that it may be deemed necessary to give to the Senior Officer of the squadron?

I have, &c.
(Signed) CHAS. C. DRURY,
Captain and Senior Naval Officer.

Inclosure 2 in No. 109.

Admiral Sir J. Hopkins to Captain Drury.

(Telegraphic.) *Patras, October 9, 1898.*

THE following telegram has been received from the Admiralty:—

"Her Majesty's Government have addressed a demand to the Moorish Government for the release of a certain prisoner and payment of an indemnity, and desire the presence of one or two ships of war at Saffi if demand is not complied with by 20th October. What could you arrange? The Senior Officer should communicate with British Minister at Tangier. Am sending 'Hawke' from here, and 'Scylla,' from Malta, will arrive 13th October."

Inclosure 3 in No. 109.

Sir A. Nicolson to Captain Drury.

Sir, *Tangier, October 10, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, and to express my thanks for the prompt and ready manner with which you have offered your assistance.

The term within which the reply of the Moorish Government to our demands has to reach my hands does not expire till the 20th instant, and I think it would be advisable to make no demonstration until the nature of the reply is known.

I expect to receive the answer from the Moorish Government before the 20th instant, and after submitting it by telegraph to Her Majesty's Government I will communicate further with you.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 110.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 17.)

(No. 137.)
My Lord, *Tangier, October 11, 1898.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 122 of the 30th August last, I have the honour to report that the Italian Minister informed me yesterday that he and his Portuguese colleague had received a first instalment of the indemnities claimed on account of piratical attacks on their vessels, and also a written promise from the Grand Vizier that the remainder would be paid within three months.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 111.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 17.)

(No. 57.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October 17, 1898.*

ARRESTS of protected persons: my telegram No. 56.

I have received as yet no reply, and in case none, or an unsatisfactory one, has been received by Thursday, I would suggest that the ships should go to Mazagan, taking with them a note for the Grand Vizier. In this note I would inform his Excellency that two of Her Majesty's ships of war bore my communication, and would return for a reply in six days. In the note I would formally reiterate demands, and state that the question would be left to Her Majesty's ships in the event of non-compliance within the term fixed.

The ships could come back here or to Gibraltar till the six days had expired, as it would be better not to leave them unnecessarily on the coast.

This would, I think, have the effect desired, and further measures would not be necessary.

I would propose that my colleagues should be informed of the incident and of the measures which it has been found necessary to take.

No. 112.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 18.)

(No. 359.)
My Lord, *Madrid, October 13, 1898.*

TOGETHER with my despatch No. 358 of yesterday may be considered some telegrams copied from the French newspapers. These assert that Spain proposes to act with France and Russia in the Far East, and also in the affairs of Morocco.

Except in matters relating to the Philippines, and even there very feebly, I do not see in what way the co-operation of Spain in the Far East can be made available by the two States in question. In Morocco, however, Spain is not a negligeable quantity, and as I have more than once pointed out the newly-created Mission in Morocco may suggest some increased activity in that Empire on the part of Russia.

If any negotiations of this nature are on foot they must be carried on by the Russian Ambassador, who has never left Madrid. France would apparently have other preoccupations, and the French Ambassador, having been almost perpetually absent, is about to be replaced. He is absent at present, and will only return to deliver his letters of recall.

I know that M. Schevitch has had frequent interviews with the Duke of Almodovar. He has himself spoken to me, as I have already reported, of the tranquillizing advice he has given to the Spanish Government on the subject of Gibraltar, and he is in constant communication with M. Pasteur, the French Chargé d'Affaires, whom he prefers to M. Patenotre, the Ambassador. Considering, however, the anxious and uncertain state of the Spanish Administration, and the language of the Duke of Almodovar, it does not appear probable that any serious agreement can have been arrived at.

The present confusion in Spain makes it dangerous to believe or to disbelieve any report entirely.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. DRUMMOND WOLFF.

No. 113.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 40.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, October* 18, 1898.

ARREST of semsars.

I approve of the course of action proposed in your telegram No. 57 of 17th October.

No. 114.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 20.)

(No. 138.)
My Lord, *Tangier, October* 13, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Consul Maclean inclosing a letter from Mr. Reid, reporting the release of his semsar and Mohalats, and also, I regret to say, the severe ill-treatment to which they were subjected by Kaïd Shtuwy. I have instructed Mr. Maclean to obtain, with as little delay as possible, sworn statements from the above individuals to be taken before public Notaries giving full particulars of the circumstances which attended this detention; and I would submit that the Moorish Government should be required to mete out a severe punishment to the offending Governor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 114.

Consul Maclean to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 107.)
Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, October* 7, 1898.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, Mr. Vice-Consul Hunot, under date of the 4th October, has reported to me the release of Mr. Reid's semsar, Mohamed-bel-Hadj Mukhtar, and the three Mohalateen.

The property taken from the men has been returned to them.

In a letter addressed to your Excellency, herewith inclosed, Mr. Reid gives a description, which leaves remarkably little to the imagination, of Kaïd Shtuwy's cruel treatment of the men. After being unmercifully flogged they were thrown into a narrow underground dungeon, chained by the neck and ankles. The semsar's wife and a child were thrown in with them.

I venture to hope that Her Majesty's Government will insist on Kaïd Shtuwy being imprisoned and fined heavily as an example to his colleagues.

It would have the best effect if he were sent to the Saffi Gaol for two years' imprisonment, and if, previous to his incarceration, he were informed publicly, in front of a British Consular officer, of the reasons for his punishment.

I venture to hope, too, that an indemnity for the men's imprisonment, and as compensation to Mr. Reid for the loss of their services may be demanded from the Moorish Government. They have procrastinated for three months before ordering the release of these men. Further, Mr. Whitmore's semsar is still imprisoned, as are also several Mohalateen in other parts of the country.

The Kaïd's treatment of Mr. Reid's semsar and the woman and child, all entitled to British protection, demonstrates that a vindication of British Treaty rights in the Saffi district is necessary.

This is further corroborated by the inattention of the Moorish authorities to the repeated representations concerning debts which have been owing to British firms in Saffi since 1893.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 114.

Mr. Reid to Sir A. Nicolson.

Sir, *Saffi, October* 4, 1898.

I HAVE much pleasure in informing you that my semsar and agents, with the woman and child, so long imprisoned by the Kaïd Shtuwy-el-Hermooshy, have at last been set at liberty.

By Government instructions they were taken to Morocco, interviewed by the Vizier, and again returned to Kaïd Shtuwy's house, where, at their urgent request, I met them some ten days ago.

They were accompanied from Court by an Amin and two Adools, who superintended the return to them of their property; and although the Amin refused to recognize me or to allow me any voice in the matter, I am nevertheless compelled to say that, while Hermooshy's Khalifa from first to last did everything to thwart, the Amin treated my men with the utmost fairness, and allowed no undue pressure to be put upon them so as to compel their acceptance of anything.

I remained at Kaïd Shtuwy's house for a week, by which time the bulk of the property was returned; the balance—principally grain—was mutually agreed upon, and written on Kaïd Shtuwy's Khalifa by the Adool, and it is now in course of delivery. The Amin remains there until all is delivered.

From my own observations this last week, and the details recorded to me by my men, I am fully persuaded that, but for the vigorous effectual support given to us by your Excellency, the prisoners would have been done away with altogether, and I beg, on my own account as well as theirs, to render to your Excellency the assurance of my warmest gratitude.

As it was, their sufferings were excessive. When they were taken first to the Kaïd's house Hamed-ben-Mesoud was thrown on his face on the ground. He was held down by twelve men, three at each limb, then flogged until from the calves of his legs up to his shoulders he was one mass of blood. As the soldiers got tired beating they were replaced two by two. So severe was it that for a fortnight afterwards he could lie in only one position—face downwards continually.

With the exception of the boy, the others (including the woman) were all also flogged, but not nearly to the same extent as Hamed.

During their imprisonment of over three months, thirty-six days were spent in two small underground pits; for fourteen days thereof the woman with her child was with them. They were thus seven people in a round pit about 7 feet in diameter, and the mouth of it closed. The men were chained to each other by the neck, and heavy irons were on both hands and feet. Their food was one small stale coarse loaf per day and a little water. They were on the bare ground, and neither they nor the woman were allowed out to relieve themselves. The pit accordingly got so filthy that it became full of worms and vermin crawling over them at will. The air was so foul

that when a soldier was lowered down to examine their irons he fainted, and his light at once went out. Before they were released from the pit they were entreating their captors to kill them outright, and, indeed, it seems almost miraculous that they should have survived. The little child is still ill, but the others are now all tolerably well, although in the case of Hamed-ben-Mesoud it will be long before he can recover his former strength, and if your Excellency decides that they are entitled to any compensation from the Moorish Government, might I suggest that, as the principal sufferer (and that vicariously, for it was solely on account of having introduced the others to me that he was punished) he should be similarly rewarded.

Owing to the seizure and retention during the entire grain season of my semsar, agents, and warehouse overseer, my own business has this year been compulsorily reduced to a minimum, and I calculate the loss to myself therefrom at from 4,000 to 5,000 dollars. For the recovery of this from the Moorish Government I beg your Excellency's kind support and assistance.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DOUGLAS REID.

No. 115.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 20.)

(No. 366.)
My Lord, *Madrid, October* 17, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an extract, with translation by Major White, from the "Liberal," criticizing the views in an article, said to be inspired by your Lordship, relative to Morocco and to the tour of inspection recently made by the Spanish Minister in that country to various Moorish ports.

I have more than once referred to the declaration made to me during Sir Euan Smith's Mission by the Duke of Tetuan that the only question of foreign affairs which really interests popular opinion in Spain is that of Morocco. As his name testifies, the Duke of Tetuan has had special facilities for forming an accurate judgment, and my experience confirms this opinion. It explains the resignation, almost the indifference, displayed by this country at the loss of her American Colonies and the steps so promptly taken to ascertain how far she can find compensation in Morocco.

I understand that Señor Ojeda accounted for his tour in the "General Valdes" by the desire of his Government to restore Spanish prestige after recent disasters by his visiting the Moorish ports with a certain amount of ceremony.

A review of the present situation in Spain warrants the idea and suggests the possibility that some step may be taken in reference to Morocco.

The troops that have been, to use the current phrase, repatriated have arrived in a state of destitution and squalor, exciting not only commiseration but indignation; 124,000 more troops, including 16,000 sick, are reported still to remain in Cuba waiting, with a number of families, for transport. There is great discontent among the superior officers, and there can be no doubt that General Weyler is meditating some move, the exact nature of which is still kept a secret. He has announced his intention of proceeding shortly to Andalusia, where he will meet the returning troops. With them, notwithstanding imputations, he still maintains his military prestige, and he would inspire confidence in a pauperized army bent on adventure and invasion. Nor is it improbable that a Fusionist Government would encourage an enterprise such as the invasion of a rich territory lying so near to Spain. Something must be done for the army and for the country. Neither Carlism nor Republicanism will produce money or food, but Morocco is represented to be a new El Dorado, as such, coveted not only by Great Britain, France, and Italy, but by Germany, and now by Russia, and offering a field for restoring the personal and national prestige and fortunes of Spain and the Spaniards.

A difficulty is found in bringing back the Cuban army to Spain, but the difficulty of disposing of them will be manifold. What solution is more obvious or more clearly indicated than the acquisition of a new pasture in Morocco by an army of seasoned soldiers?

The pretext for action can easily be extracted from Article VIII of the Treaty of Tetuan of the 26th April, 1860. By that instrument there was ceded to Spain ground sufficient for the formation of a fishing establishment close to Santa Cruz la Pequeña,

the limits of which were to be fixed by a Joint Committee. This stipulation was confirmed by Article VIII of the Treaty of Madrid of the 30th October, 1861, but has not been carried out from the difficulty of ascertaining the exact locality.

But this I understand is not the only grievance that can be brought forward.

The following is, I believe, approximately the numbers of the troops returning from Cuba and Porto Rico:—

Troops already returned, 30,000, including, however, a large proportion, about 23,000, unfit for further service. Of the remainder (124,000), about 90,000 will be fit for further service.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. DRUMMOND WOLFF.

Inclosure in No. 115.

Extract from "El Liberal" of October 16, 1898.

A STRANGE article, on the subject of Morocco, was published, on the 12th October, in an important London daily paper, to whose columns Lord Salisbury sends inspired communications.

It spoke of the steady purpose of Spain, always longing to extend her dominion or her influence in the north of Africa, and made some remarks as to our present actions and intentions that should not be passed over without notice.

According to the writer, the circumstances are now propitious for the realization of the desire, constantly, and for centuries, cherished by Spain, to wrest from the Moors the territory to which they were driven after their expulsion from the peninsula.

In consequence of the loss of her Colonies, Spain has a powerful army available, with the which she may easily endeavour to seek, in Africa, compensation for her losses in America.

More than once have France and England restrained her aspirations, but it appears that a pretext now presents itself for arriving, or attempting to arrive, at her traditional objective.

When, in 1860, the Powers prohibited her from reaping the fruits of the victory over Muley Hassan, she circumvented ("soslayó") the difficulty of recovering the concession, which dated from the end of the fifteenth century, of certain semi-mythical territories known as Santa Cruz de Mar Pequeña.

A careful examination of the investigations made at different times does not disclose the date of the original concession, and it was a common belief that the proposition to give effect to it had completely passed out of mind.

Such, however, is not the case, and England is in no small measure perturbed and suspicious thereupon.

The paper to which we refer, describes, in flaring colours, our recent expedition in search of the said territory.

The journey, it is said, was made with a solemnity and dignity unknown in Morocco for many years.

The Spanish Minister, accompanied by a numerous suite, travelled on board the cruiser* "General Valdes," and the "Hassanieh," a† vessel of the Shereefian navy, acted as guide and escort.‡

"Santa Cruz de Mar Pequeña is worth nothing ('nada vale') even supposing that its position is located; but, for all that, we believe that certain Powers will not view the situation favourably, nor will they consider that they are quite disinterested in the matter."

England (according to the journal favoured by Lord Salisbury) confines her pretensions in Morocco to the port of Tangier, once hers, and the coast opposite Gibraltar.

This is not the case with France, who aspires to the Empire of the whole of Morocco, and who has been waiting impatiently since 1830 for the opportunity of achieving it.

Of a surety, it is not reconcilable that a Power like Spain should gain a footing on the borders of the ocean, besides holding in the Mediterranean the fortresses of Ceuta and Melilla, whose importance is notorious.

* Transport, paddle. † The only. ‡ Not mentioned in other press accounts.

Nobody will be taken in by the puerile strategy which the inspirer of the article aims, in the first instance, at France, supposing that our intentions will incur her profound displeasure.

It is easy to divine that the feeling of alarm comes from Great Britain, whose eyes are fixed with equal affection on Tangier and on Ceuta.

What we have quoted above constitutes a fact which cannot be more expressive.

Whatever river the lamb may drink in, the wolf, up-stream, will always complain of the muddiness of the water.

England, who, during the late war, lent her moral support to the United States, and who is now backing them up in the peace negotiations, has not yet received her commission, and all the symptoms show that she is beginning to get impatient.

If pretexts are wanting, she will not hesitate to invent them.

Let that suffice us, and do not let us delude ourselves that, since the loss of our Colonies, we shall be allowed, within our own poor house, a repose as necessary as it is well deserved.

It is much to be feared that the signature of the Treaty, far from concluding, will be but the commencement of a series of complications and mishaps for us.

No. 116.

Foreign Office to London Chamber of Commerce.

Sir, *Foreign Office, October* 20, 1898.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, bringing to his Lordship's notice a newspaper extract relating to the treatment of certain semsars and Mohalats in Morocco.

I am to state to you, for the information of the General Purposes Committee, that these matters have not escaped Lord Salisbury's attention, and that a demand has been addressed to the Moorish Government for the release of the prisoners, for the payment of an indemnity on account of their detention, and for the punishment of the Governor responsible for their ill-treatment.

I am to add that these demands will be enforced.

I am, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 117.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received October 21.)

(Confidential.)

Sir, *Admiralty, October* 21, 1898.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the decypher of a telegram, dated the 21st October, from the Senior Naval Officer at Gibraltar respecting the movements of Her Majesty's ships "Hawke" and "Scylla" in connection with the demands being made upon the Moorish Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

Inclosure in No. 117.

Senior Naval Officer, Gibraltar, to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.) *Gibraltar, October* 21, 1898, 1·35 P.M.

"HAWKE," "Scylla" left yesterday for Tangier. Proceed to-day to Mazagan to present ultimatum, then return to Tangier. Proceed 29th October to Mazagan in order to receive answer. If satisfactory return to Tangier, then Gibraltar. Mazagan considered better than Safi for communication, thirty-six hours from Morocco city.

No. 118.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 21.)

(No. 58.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 21, 1898.

ARRESTS of protected persons: my telegram No. 57.

Immediately after ships had started for Mazagan I received a reply from the Grand Vizier.

It declines, practically, to pay indemnities, and is not satisfactory.

I have little doubt, from private information I have received from the Court, that when the note which the ships are taking has been received we shall receive full satisfaction as to all our demands.

No. 119.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 41.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, October* 22, 1898, 4·45 P.M.

YOUR private letter of the 13th October.

We are telegraphing to Berlin to-day.

No. 120.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Gough.

(No. 164.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, October* 22, 1898, 4·45 P.M.

PLEASE refer to the telegraphic correspondence with Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier in the sections sent to you by messenger on the 19th instant on the subject of the arrest of certain semsars and mohalats in Morocco.

Sir A. Nicolson has had a reply of an unsatisfactory nature from the Grand Vizier, but before its receipt, Her Majesty's ships had already started for Magagan conveying a further note from Sir A. Nicolson, in which he demanded immediate payment and the punishment of the offending Governor, and threatened that in case of a refusal, action would be taken.

Her Majesty's Minister suggests that in order to avoid arousing the susceptibilities of foreign countries, our action should consist in seizing one or both of the Sultan's light armed steamers.

Seeing that both of these vessels have German officers and engineers, I should wish you to ascertain in a private manner and as a matter of courtesy, whether the German Government are disposed to raise any objection to the proposed course of action.

The officers would be shown every consideration, and could be put ashore at Tangier.

As the matter is urgent, you should telegraph your reply.

No. 121.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 24.)

(No. 59.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, October* 24, 1898.

ARRESTS of protected persons: my telegram No. 58.

I am informed by Sultan's Delegate here that to-morrow at 10 A.M. the indemnities will be paid to me. I learn also from the Grand Vizier that the men have all been released.

In these circumstances I would propose, with your Lordship's sanction, that the ships should not revisit Mazagan, but return to Gibraltar. I shall be able, without the presence of the ships, to arrange the only question which still remains open, viz., the punishment of the Governor.

No. 122.

Viscount Gough to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 24.)

(No. 28.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Berlin, October* 24, 1898, 12·30 P.M.

BARON VON RICHTHOFEN requests me to convey his very best thanks for the communication contained in your Lordship's telegram No. 164 respecting Morocco.

He begs to be permitted to postpone till to-morrow any further observations.

The German Representative in Morocco has been in continuous telegraphic correspondence with him on the subject of the impending proceedings, and Baron Richthofen had until now supposed that it had been intended to seize some custom-house revenue.

No. 123.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 25.)

(No. 139.)
My Lord, *Tangier October* 14, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 138 of the 13th instant, I have the honour to transmit copy of a note which I have addressed to the Grand Vizier demanding the punishment of Kaïd Shteewy for the ill-treatment to which he subjected the British-protected persons whom he seized and kept in confinement during three months.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 123.

Sir A. Nicolson to Cid Hamed-ben-Moussa.

(After compliments.) *Tangier, October* 14, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received information, through Her Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida, that Mohamed-bel-Hadj Mokhtar Hasseeni, M'hamed-bel-Hadj Mokhtar Hasseeni, Hadj-el-Hassen-ben Teeby Shedni, and Hamed-ben-Mesoud Hasseeny have been at length set at liberty, and that steps are being taken to return the property robbed from them by Kaïd Shteewy. I am daily awaiting a reply from your Excellency announcing that the indemnities which I have demanded in the name of Her Majesty's Government on account of these men, and of others, are to be paid to me.

I have now to acquaint your Excellency that Kaïd Shteewy has been guilty of the most cruel treatment towards these unfortunate people. For thirty-six days he kept the semsar and the Mohalateen in small underground dungeons, that they were not permitted to leave these places for any purpose, that they were heavily chained by neck, hands, and feet, that the woman and child were confined for fourteen days also in these dungeons, that the air became so foul and the place so filthy that vermin of all kinds swarmed, that the food was daily one small loaf and a little water, that one of them was most brutally flogged till his body was in such a condition that the man could only lie on his face for a fortnight, that the other men were also flogged, and also the woman.

The bare recital of this treatment is sufficient. I need add no words of my own.

These acts on the part of Kaïd Shteewy I have brought to the notice of my Govenment, and I am instructed to demand of your Excellency will send an immediate reply announcing that the Government have taken prompt and satisfactory steps in that direction.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 124.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 25.)

(No. 140.)
My Lord, *Tangier, October* 18, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 134 of the 1st instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Consul Maclean relative to the circumstances attending the arrest of the British mokhalat, Bushaib-ben-Gilali. The Grand Vizier had dwelt at some length on this case in his note of the 15th September, copy of which was inclosed in my above-mentioned despatch, and endeavoured to throw the responsibility of the delay in the settlement of the case on to the British authorities. Mr. Maclean's despatch explains clearly how the matter really stood.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 124.

Consul Maclean to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 108.)
Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, October* 10, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 66 of the 1st instant, inclosing translation of a letter from the Vizier relative to Bushaib-ben-Gilali Baghta Zirawi, whose release from prison was reported in my despatch No. 91 of the 28th July.

On the occasion of the Muhtassib's visit I informed him that I could not enter upon the subject until Bushaib was released, unless I received particular instructions from you to do so.

The Muhtassib replied that he had received no guidance on this point, and had merely to inquire what the man owed to his employer.

Now that the man is free, I think the value of the property taken would be a suitable subject for inquiry by a Moorish official and myself, but some compensation is due for illegal imprisonment, and the mokhalat is entitled to the return of the money he paid for his release.

The Vizier in his letter appears to evade the real points. The merchants have not asked for assistance to obtain from the mokhalat what he owes them. They simply asked for the man's release, and that the property they had intrusted to him should be returned by the Kaïd who took illegal possession of it.

With regard to his Excellency's assertion, that this "mokhalata was not conducted in the usual manner, as the authorities had no word of it or letter about it," I can only say that his Excellency is badly informed. Bushaib's name was sent in to the Kaïd of Dar-al-Baida at the same time as other names, with the usual request that the Governors concerned should be informed.

Payment of taxes is always a matter of disagreement. I have maintained that mokhalateen must pay their proper share. Unfortunately, more than this is invariably demanded. In most instances, the payment is a matter of arrangement between the Sheikh and his employer, but often my assistance is necessary.

When a specially flagrant case arises of a man being unjustly treated because he bears a British agent's certificate and it is brought to my notice I intervene energetically, and request from the Kaïd information as to how the amount demanded has been arrived at—for what particular taxes. This action generally facilitates a prompt arrangement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN

No. 125.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 42.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, October* 25, 1898, 3·30 P.M.

ARREST of semsars, &c.

I have received your telegram No. 59 of the 24th instant.

The suggested return of Her Majesty's ships to Gibraltar is approved.

No. 126.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 27.)

(No. 141.)
My Lord, *Tangier, October* 21, 1898.

HER Majesty's ships "Hawke" and "Scylla" arrived here yesterday afternoon, and as no reply had been received from the Grand Vizier to my note of the 29th September, they proceeded at 9·30 A.M. to Mazagan, bearing a note, of which I have the honour to transmit a copy.

The vessels had just left the port when a note from the Grand Vizier, of which I beg leave to inclose a translation, was sent to me by the Sultan's Deputy here. This communication is dated the 7th instant, and has been therefore a fortnight on the way. It merely refers me to his Excellency's note of the 15th ultimo, which I forwarded to your Lordship in my despatch No. 134 of the 1st instant, and practically declines even to entertain the question of a payment of any indemnity.

On the 9th instant the Grand Vizier was acquainted with the fact that his above-mentioned communication of the 15th September had been received, and that it gave no reason for any modification in the demands then before him. There was then ample time for his Excellency to have sent me a further communication before yesterday had he been disposed to do so.

I transmit to your Lordship in connection with this matter copy of a further despatch which I have received from Mr. Consul Maclean.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 126.

Sir A. Nicolson to Cid Hamed-ben-Moussa.

(After compliments.) *Tangier, October* 21, 1898.

I STATED to your Excellency in my note of the 29th ultimo that unless the individuals mentioned in the inclosure to that note were immediately released, and indemnities, amounting in all to 12,940 dollars, paid to me by yesterday, I should place the matter in the hands of Her Majesty's Government to take such steps as it might think desirable for insisting upon a proper and due observance of Treaty stipulations on the part of the Moorish Government and its provincial authorities. To this communication I have received no reply from your Excellency, although it was handed to your Excellency on the 4th instant.

In my note of the 14th instant, I informed your Excellency that I had learnt from Her Majesty's Consul at Dar-al-Baida that the individuals who had been arrested by Kaïd Shteewy-el-Hermooshy had been released after a detention of some three months; and I also acquainted your Excellency that these unfortunate people had been subjected to most cruel treatment at the hands of the above-mentioned Kaïd Shteewy. I stated further that I was therefore instructed to demand of your Excellency the punishment of Kaïd Shteewy.

I have now to inform your Excellency that the present note will be conveyed to the port of Mazagan by two of Her Majesty's ships of war, and will be dispatched from there by a special courier. It should be in your Excellency's hands not later than the 24th instant, and I request your Excellency to send me a reply, which must

reach Mazagan not later than the 28th instant. On that date Her Majesty's ships of war will return to Mazagan, and should no reply be awaiting them, or should the reply not contain full compliance with the demands promulgated in my notes of the 29th September and the 14th October, the matter will be left in the hands of the Officer Commanding Her Majesty's ships to take such action as he may think fit.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 126.

Cid Hamed-ben-Moussa to Sir A. Nicolson.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) 19 *Jumad I*, 1316 (*October* 7, 1898).

YOUR letter of the 29th September reached, oh, intelligent friend, referring to the delay which has occurred in replying to your previous letter relative to the arrest of two semsars and four mokhalats, about which certain of your merchants complain, and who you think are still imprisoned, and relative to the indemnities which you indicated in the note inclosed therein. You request a speedy reply, as stated in your previous letter, and you impress this upon us in this letter. We brought this to the knowledge of our lord (compliments), and he took cognizance of it, and commanded me, Allah exalt him! to reply to you, oh, friend, with a statement of what has happened, which is that when this letter of yours reached, a reply had already been sent to your previous letter on the 26th Rabia II, explaining fully the occurrences in each of the cases, and in it we explained to you that which does not render it desirable to mention the necessity of an indemnity in view of the good relations and justice existing between the two Governments, and you will be averse from striving to open this door of great harm to the Government.

That reply will doubtless have reached before this.

May you continue, &c.

(Signed) HAMED-BEN-MOUSSA-BEN-HAMED.

Inclosure 3 in No. 126.

Consul Maclean to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 112.)
Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, October* 19, 1898.

I HAVE received this morning your despatch No. 68 of the 15th instant, informing me of what the Vizier stated relative to Mr. Whitmore's semsar.

According to private information which I have received, this semsar was carried off to Marakesh about the 9th instant.

When he was first seized Mr. Whitmore, accompanied by Adools, went out and found that the grain and animals belonging to him had not been molested, but that the house had been plundered. Mr. Whitmore remained on the scene, and himself superintended the harvest.

There are two observations which I would respectfully venture to point out for your special attention. His Excellency states: "1. That the Governor had been compelled to present him liberated at the Shereefian Court immediately; 2. The Makhzen will mete out to him (the Kaïd) a fitting punishment for having seized him without a cause."

I submit that the release should have taken place immediately, without the semsar being sent up to Marakesh. Taking him up to Marakesh means his being still a prisoner, and being carried through the country as a warning to all what the Government dares to do towards those who are supposed to enjoy European protection. The same course has been adopted on previous similar occasions, the most recent instance being that of Mr. Reid's semsar.

I further submit that, according to the Treaty rights of a British semsar, there can be no cause which would entitle a Kaïd to seize him excepting at the request of the protecting authority.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

No. 127.

Viscount Gough to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 28.)

(No. 30.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Berlin, October* 28, 1898, 2·15 P.M.

MOROCCO: My telegram of the 24th instant.

Baron von Richthofen reiterates his expression of thanks for your Lordship's courteous action, which is greatly appreciated.

No objections can of course be put forward according to international law, but an unfavourable impression would evidently be made on the German public, should German employés, in consequence of these proceedings, lose their employment and means of livelihood.

Should the vessels be seized, Baron von Richthofen submits the suggestion whether the German employés could retain their places, possibly under British command, until the settlement of the pending question respecting the imprisoned semsars shall have taken place.

These particular employés have, it would appear, recently deserved well of the Moorish Government, notably in the Riff coast complications.

No. 128.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Gough.

(No. 168.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office, October* 28, 1898.

I HAVE received your telegram No. 30 of the 25th instant.

Be good enough to express to the German Government our thanks for the courtesy with which they have met our views, and inform them that no measures of coercion will be needed, as the indemnity which we demanded has been paid by the Moorish Government.

No. 129.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received October* 29.)

(No. 142.)
My Lord, *Tangier, October* 24, 1898.

CID GHANNAM, a Moorish functionary resident in Tangier, called upon me yesterday, under instructions from the Grand Vizier, to speak to me in regard to the question of the arrest and detention of certain British-protected persons, and the demands which had been made for their liberation and for the payment of an indemnity.

He stated, after many protestations of friendly feelings with which the Moorish Government was animated, that all the men had been released and the property of some of them returned to them, and the main object of his visit was to ascertain whether I was ready, in the circumstances, to forego the claim for an indemnity.

I explained to Cid Ghannam that the matter was now out of my hands, but that I was quite sure that my Government would not abate any of the demands which I had been instructed to present to the Moorish Government. I had received an official letter from the Grand Vizier, of which I beg leave to inclose a translation, confirming what he had told me as to the release of the men and the restitution of the property; but he could hardly expect that the mere liberation after over three months' illegal detention, accompanied in some cases with cruel treatment, and the restitution of what had been robbed, could be considered as sufficient compensation and reparation.

Cid Ghannam said that the Governors were to blame, and if the indemnities were insisted upon, other nations, when their protégés were arrested, might demand similar compensation.

I replied that it was quite probable that they would do so, as it was necessary that both the Moorish Government and their provincial authorities should clearly understand that Treaty stipulations should be observed. Moreover, though I had repeatedly applied to the Moorish Government for the release of the men, my notes had either been unanswered or I had only received evasive replies, so that the blame should not rest solely on the shoulders of the local authorities.

Cid Ghannam inquired whether I would be prepared to receive the indemnities privately, so that the fact of the payment should not be made public.

I told him this was quite out of the question. I impressed on him that the vessels would return on Thursday to Mazagan, but if he were authorized to give me an order on the Customs for the indemnities, I would telegraph to your Lordship to inquire if a second visit and the possible subsequent action would be necessary. Cid Ghannam, after some further conversation, eventually asked till to-day to consider the matter.

To this I consented, and repeated that immediate payment could alone avoid unpleasant consequences.

This afternoon Cid Ghannam paid me another visit, and again pressed for some further delay; and requested that I should at least retain the ships here till further communications were made with the Court. I explained that any delay beyond the 28th instant could not be granted, and that if the Moorish Government desired to avoid the return of the vessels to Mazagan he should at once pay me the indemnities. If this were done, I would request your Lordship's permission to allow the ships to return to Gibraltar. He said he would consult with Cid Mohamed Torres, the Deputy of the Sultan, and an hour later I received an intimation that the money would be paid to-morrow morning at 10 A.M. to any person whom I would authorize to receive it. I have consequently made arrangements with the Legation bankers to attend at the Treasury for the above purpose.

The only question still left open is the punishment of Kaïd Shteewy for his ill-treatment of his prisoners, but as the demand for his punishment could only have reached the hands of the Grand Vizier on the 22nd instant, I trust your Lordship will approve of my leaving this matter over for future settlement. I have little doubt that I shall be able to obtain a satisfactory solution without having recourse to further measures; and it would perhaps be desirable to have properly sworn statements from the injured individuals. I hardly think it would be advisable to detain Her Majesty's ships for this question alone, especially as the principal demands, and those for which the vessels were originally dispatched, have now been complied with.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 129.

Cid Hamed-ben-Moussa to Sir A. Nicolson.

(Translation.)
(After compliments.) *October* 12, 1898.

WE had previously replied to you, oh, intelligent friend, on the 26th Rabia II, relative to the two semsars and six mokhalats, of whose arrest you had sent information, and in our reply we had explained to you the facts in each case, amongst them that of Mohamed-ben-Hadj Mokhtar-el-Hasseeny, and those with him; we explained to you the care and attention given by the Government in searching for them until it discovered them and obtained possession of them, and that by reason of the number of days taken in the steps for discovering them, the reply was delayed until the date mentioned, and we promised to inform you of the conclusion of the investigation of their case. Then we received your letter of the 10th instant emphasizing your first letter requesting their release, and the payment of an indemnity to each as explained in your note. We replied to this, your second letter, on the 19th instant, referring you to our previous reply, and you will have received them all; and as the Government insisted on the carrying out of that on which it had bent its attention in the case of Mohamed-ben-Hadj Mokhtar-el-Hasseeny, and those with him, it is now necessary to fulfil our promise to you to inform you of the completion of verifying their case, which is that when the Government found them they were all brought to the Shereefian Court at liberty and safe, and the whole of their complaints and what they had lost taken down. They said they had lost a great number of cattle, sheep, and ploughing animals, household goods, and cash, of which it would be expected that they would only possess a small part. Nevertheless, the Makhzen shut its eyes to an inquiry into this by evidence we hold, and by which only a small portion would have been proved, and compelled the Kaïd complained of to pay the whole of it without exception, and removed them from his jurisdiction into that of another Governor as a punishment to him for having stretched out his hand against them without reason, and to preserve the good relations existing with the Government of Great Britain the glorious; and the Makhzen appointed an Ameen and two respected Adools from Marakesh who went with them and with the Governor, from whose hands they had been

taken, and the Governor who had been appointed over them; and the Ameen and two Adools attended to their receiving all they claimed of every description to the last thing, even to some articles claimed which the Governor had not wherewithal to pay in kind, he was compelled to pay the value that the claimants agreed to accept; and when they received everything they acknowledged it, and also that the Kaïd and others had acquitted themselves of this claim and all claims and consequences, by a full and comprehensive acquittal, as they had no further claim against any one according to the inclosed complete document, oh, friend, which contains the whole of the above.

You will know from this, oh, friend, the trial given by the Makhzen to attending to this case thoroughly, although the Makhzen has strong proof that the semsarship of this Ben-Mokhtar was never admitted, as it is not founded upon the grounds recognized by Treaties; still, as the Governor committed this fault by seizing him and those with him before taking the necessary steps, the Makhzen shut its eyes against discussing it.

As to the remainder of the men in question, they are also liberated, with the exception of Abdslam-ben-Hadj-Hoban, whose case we have already explained to you in the reply sent to you, oh, friend, on the 26th of last month. It is that he was a Sheikh over his brethren, and was wont to collect their taxes, and when the Governor asked him for the amount he had collected, he fled from him. He (the Governor) informed the Makhzen of this, and Shereefian orders were sent to the Governors of the Honz ports that whoever of them found him should arrest him.

Amongst these Governors was the Governor of Saffi, and it happened that when the Shereefian order to arrest him reached him the man arrived at Saffi, and the Consul wrote to him informing him that he was a mokhalat; the Governor replied to him immediately explaining the case, and informing him of the Shereefian order which had been ssued to him earlier about him. He then arrested him.

Now, if this arrest is with clear cause, it is not expected from an equitable person that the words of a merchant will be accepted unjustly, and cause the Makhzen to lose what he owes to it, and open the gate for claiming mokhalatship unfoundedly.

Nevertheless, the Makhzen intends to send Shereefian orders now for his immediate release until his case is proved to you as a final proof that the Makhzen is far from desiring to neglect any of the rights of the subjects of the British nation, the respected, and thus refuting that which, peradventure, may reach you to the contrary. As the majority of those who have become mokhalats lately are those who were guilty of corruption during the late disturbance in this district of the Honz, or something similar, have done so that they may escape retribution for their offences. It is not hidden that the most important object of the Makhzen in this district is to gather in all who are guilty of this, so that the land and the people may be cleansed from all that might diminish the safety of the subjects of the Makhzen, and the merchants of the friendly nations resident in it, both in their person and goods. And, doubtless, the friendly Government of Great Britain is of those who desire the carrying out and employment of the measures necessary to arrive at its result.

And as to the indemnity you allude to, Shereefian orders have been sent to the Ameen Cid-ben-Nasr Ghannam at Tangier to meet you and confer with you about this; therefore, meet him, oh, friend, and it is expected that you will not fail to bring these matters to a conclusion in a manner by which the kindly regard, &c., between the two great Governments will endure.

May you rest, &c.

(Signed) HAMED-BEN-MOUSSA-BEN-HAMED.

No. 130.

Viscount Gough to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 31.)

(No. 287.)

My Lord, *Berlin, October 29, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's telegram No. 168 of yesterday's date, instructing me to thank the German Government for the courtesy with which they have met your Lordship's views in the matter of the apprehended coercive measures in Morocco, now no longer necessary, and I have not failed to carry out the instructions in question.

Baron von Richthofen, whom I saw this morning, was already aware that the indemnity had been paid.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GOUGH.

No. 131.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 101.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, November 1, 1898.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 139 of the 14th ultimo, and I approve the note which you have addressed to the Grand Vizier demanding punishment of Kaïd Shteewy for the ill-treatment of the British-protected persons seized and imprisoned by him.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 132.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 103.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, November 4, 1898.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 141 of the 21st ultimo, and I approve the note which you addressed to the Grand Vizier on the 21st October, and which was conveyed to Mazagan by Her Majesty's ships "Hawke" and "Scylla."

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 133.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 104.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, November 4, 1898.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 142 of the 24th ultimo, reporting a conversation which you have had with Sid Ghannan, a Moorish functionary, with regard to the question of the arrest and detention of certain British-protected persons.

I approve the language held by you on this occasion, and concur in the course of procedure which you propose to adopt with regard to the punishment of Kaïd Shteewy, the Governor implicated in these outrages.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 134.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 5.)

(No. 143.)

My Lord, *Tangier, October 26, 1898.*

THE Moorish steamer the "Hassanie" has arrived here from Mazagan with 1,500 troops on board, which she is transporting to the mouth of the River Ajerood, which forms the boundary between Morocco and Algeria. A body of 100 cavalry is also proceeding with them to act as a kind of frontier police, and to prevent any desertions from the Moorish force.

The men are receiving very liberal pay and rations, and are to be stationed on the frontier for eighteen months, when they will be relieved by others.

I have hitherto been unable to ascertain the object of this measure on the part of the Moorish Government, or what reasons have prompted them to undertake it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 135.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 5.)

(No. 146.)
My Lord, *Tangier, October* 27, 1898.

THERE have been various conflicting reports in the local press as to the state of affairs in the Tafilet district; and I know that the Moorish Government is considerably disturbed at the situation in that province. I have been endeavouring to ascertain what precisely is occurring in that province, the cradle of the present dynasty, and whose adhesion to the Government is of importance.

A well-informed person tells me that the situation there is a complicated one, and that the Government finds itself in a dilemma. According to my informant, Muley Reshid, the uncle of the late Sultan, who discharges the duties of a Lieutenant of the Sovereign in Tafilet, has provoked the displeasure of the majority of the tribes in those parts. The latter have appealed to the Sultan to remove him, threatening that unless their request is accorded they will call in the French to assist them in deposing him. Muley Reshid, on the other hand, has informed the Government that unless he receives assistance to enable him to crush the discontent, he will be forced to appeal to the French to come to his aid.

It has been stated to me, though I am unable to say with what truth, that French emissaries have of late been particularly active in the Tafilet district; and it is possible that encouragement has been given to both parties in the present dissensions. News from Tafilet is, however, so vague and so untrustworthy that I should hesitate to give absolute credence to any reports which may arrive from there.

It is unquestionable that the Moorish Government is anxious as to the condition of affairs, but it usually succeeds, so far as regards internal difficulties, in devising some means of escaping from serious embarrassments. On the other hand, the introduction of a foreign factor would undoubtedly render the problem far more difficult of solution.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 136.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 5.)

(No. 147.)
My Lord, *Tangier, October* 29, 1898.

A VERY persistent rumour has been current throughout this country that the German Minister, at his recent visit to the Shereefian Court, had obtained a Concession for the erection of a fort and for the construction of a harbour at the mouth of the Moulonia River, near the Algerian frontier.

The story appeared exceedingly improbable, but I inquired of the French Chargé d'Affaires yesterday whether he had any information on the subject.

M. des Portes told me that the French Chargé d'Affaires in Berlin had made inquiries of the German Government, and had been assured that there was absolutely no foundation for the report.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 137.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 5.)

(No. 379.)
My Lord, *Madrid, October* 29, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a series of notes by the Military Attaché on the subject of Morocco, which tend to show, among other things, the increased amount of attention that is being paid to that Empire in the Spanish press.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. DRUMMOND WOLFF.

Inclosure in No. 137.

Notes by Major White.

British War Vessels in Moroccan Waters. Rising in Tafilet.

1. THE papers, generally, notice the arrival of Her Majesty's ships "Hawke" and "Scylla" at Tangier for Mazagan, and attribute their presence to a desire to hasten the giving of satisfaction for the illegal imprisonment, &c., of sundry British-protected subjects.

The "Correspondencia" of the 23rd October, however, considers the advent to be in connection with the rising in Tafilet (see my note of the 19th October, 1898):—

"France aspires to extend her dominion in this direction in order to join Algeria with her Senegal possessions, and if she succeeds in this she will become mistress of a vast territory, which will, perhaps, give occasion to other nations to think that they have the right to help themselves to slices of this anæmic Empire in other directions.

"The news of the rebellion of several Tafilet Shereefs is confirmed. The head of the movement is a nephew of the deceased Muley Hassan, who aims at seizing the Imperial treasure, and to oppose the ruling power represented by the youthful Muley Abd-el-Aziz.

"If the insurrection finds support in any other portions of the Empire it will be an extremely grave matter, which will perhaps be the signal for action for other nations which have their eyes fixed on this country.

"I do not pretend, nor is it my object, to fathom the depths of politics, but only to indicate, in passing, the intrigues of certain persons much esteemed in certain Embassies, and better rewarded.

"Perhaps later on one will be able to speak more clearly."

MOROCCO.

Extract from "La Correspondencia" of October 23, 1898.

2. We receive, from Tangier, curious news of the Mogreb Empire.

The "Eco Mauritano" states that the young Emperor has recovered. It appears that what has not yet been tried is that the Sultan should live morally, or that he should have been, or should be, in reality, the arbiter of the destinies of his Empire, a position occupied in fact, if not by right, by the celebrated Grand Vizier Buhammed ever since that favourite assumed the reins of Government after the death of the predecessor of Abd-el-Aziz in Tadla.

It is said that, since the commencement of his reign until now, this has been the cause of the sickness and death of the present Emperor; a moral death, which, day by day, gathers increasing opposition round the Throne, and creates situations fraught with serious consequences, if a radical change does not take place in the Imperial habits and Muley Abd-el-Aziz does not follow the example of Muley Hassan, in all that concerns the government of Morocco.

The belief is increasing that, ere long, the Court will return to Fez, where it will receive the several Embassies, which have already arranged such visits with the Shereefian Government.

3. In the district of Fez, and in other districts of the Empire, the recruitment of troops for the Riff country continues for a campaign, which the Grand Vizier intends to conclude shortly in view of the vast expense that it occasions to the Imperial Treasury.

The Kaïd-el-Bashir has received orders to this effect, commanding him to advance and to give no quarter to the rebels, who are also preparing to oppose the invading troops.

4. New and numerous prisoners have arrived in the prisons of Fez, among them several leaders of the rising which took place in the Province of Tadla on the death of Muley Hassan.

Some of them are warm supporters of Prince Muley Mohammed, and on this account are treated with excessive cruelty, having been imprisoned in the worst dungeons,

of the nature of tombs, from which the unfortunates incarcerated there only issue after death; after having been condemned to such sufferings by the Government of a country which maintains cordial relations with the Governments of the civilized world.

5. Letters from Morocco city inform us of the news of the death of Muley Othman, uncle of the reigning Sultan.

His body was buried in the shrine of Muley Ali Shereef in Morocco city with all the honours due to an Imperial Prince.

CEUTA.

Extract from "La Correspondencia" of October 23, 1898.

6. In the paper "El Africa," of Ceuta, appears an article on the advantage of establishing a custom-house at that place.

The custom-house being established on the frontier, other reforms would naturally follow of their own accord, which, besides benefiting the Treasury, would augment our influence in Morocco.

The harbour, which, although considered of national utility, will not be completed in a century, would then be finished, as being a veritable necessity.

The harbour having been constructed and the custom-house established, the majority of the ships navigating those waters would go there, as much to take shelter from the frequent storms of the Strait as to look for cargo.

Gradually increasing, as for a long time the numerous vessels trading with Morocco have found the port of Ceuta to be the safest on that coast, the respective Companies would accumulate large coal stores there, besides that stored there for sale.

If this fine idea be realized, foreigners would naturally flock to this open door for commerce with Morocco, and would establish Consular Agencies for the protection of their interests. Ceuta would thus be transformed.

It is well that the defences of Ceuta should be increased, that its guns should be multiplied, that Benzus and such other places as are considered necessary should be armed; but, without the loss of a minute, the fountain from which the gold may be drawn should be sought. Gold that, thanks to the want of zeal of our Ministers, is carried off from Spain by foreigners.

The remarks of "El Africa" are worthy of being held in remembrance, the more that Spain now needs the means to increase her trade and the export of her manufactures.

(Signed) W. L. WHITE, *Major*,
Military Attaché.

Madrid, October 29, 1898.

No. 138.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 7.)

(No. 60.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 7, 1898.

ARREST of protected persons: my telegram No. 59 of the 24th ultimo.

The reply of the Moorish Government to the note sent by the "Hawke" and "Scylla" has been received. It had been waiting at Mazagan until the ships returned there. The punishment of the Governor is promised, and the other demands, which have already been carried out, are complied with.

No. 139.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 8.)

(No. 386.)
My Lord, *Madrid, November* 5, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a note by the Military Attaché on the subject of the reported threat of an attack by Moorish tribesmen on the Spanish factory at Rio de Oro.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. DRUMMOND WOLFF.

Inclosure in No. 139.

Notes by Major White.

AT the Council of Ministers held on the evening of the 2nd November, the following telegram, from the Senior Naval Officer at Santa Cruz de Teneriffe, was read and discussed:—

"Rio de Oro; nothing new. A Moor informs me that, at four or five days' journey from the factory, are some 4,000 to 5,000 armed Moors. He does not know whether they are tribesmen or belong to the Sultan."

Rio de Oro is a trading station at which the "Transatlantica" keeps goods to exchange for wool and ostrich feathers.

The garrison consists of twenty-five to thirty marines, with a machine-gun, under the command of a Captain.

The garrison of the Canaries being now much reduced since the return home of the troops on the suspension of hostilities, orders were dispatched to Cadiz for two companies of marines to proceed to Rio de Oro at once, on board the auxiliary cruiser "Rapido." They are said to have embarked on the 3rd, and the cruiser is expected to arrive at her destination in forty-eight hours, or a little more. "As the factory is short of food, water, and shelter, the 'Rapido' will take the necessary provisions and tents."

(*Note.*—This looks as if there were no drinking water there. The Moorish Governor of Cape Juby told me, in 1895, that all the water at his post had to be carried 25 miles.)

The "Correspondencia" (November 3, 1898), says that here also the Spaniards have demonstrated their inefficiency as a colonizing Power, as the factory is not prospering, but that, if they abandon it, "the English will occupy that port on the west coast of Africa, and we shall have that importunate neighbour within eight hours' steam of the Canaries. That is, no doubt, the reason why the Government does not abandon the Rio de Oro."

The "Rapido" left Cadiz on the evening of the 4th; she had 300 marines on board. She also took 10,000 rations and ninety casks of water. She will go to Las Palmas, where the men, &c., will be transhipped to a tug, as the "Rapido" draws too much water to anchor near Rio de Oro.

A long and somewhat exhaustive article that appeared in the "Ejercito Español" of the 4th November is being translated, and will be forwarded shortly.

(Signed) W. L. WHITE, *Major*,
Military Attaché.

Madrid, November 5, 1898.

No. 140.

Consul-General Newton to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 9.)

(No. 9)
My Lord, *Algiers, November 5, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a cutting from the "Dépêche Algérienne," dated the 4th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. HAY NEWTON.

Inclosure in No. 140.

Extract from "La Dépêche Algérienne" of November 4, 1898.

UNE nouvelle de quelque gravité nous est arrivée du Maroc.

Hier matin, le vapeur de guerre Marocain "Sidi-Turkish," a débarqué en rade de Kiss (Maroc), 2,000 askris du Sultan, avec munitions, armes, et bagages.

Ce détachement, qui comprend en outre trois pièces d'artillerie, est placé sous les ordres d'un Agha; il va faire route sur Oudjda, où, suivant un bruit très accrédité, il opérera sa jonction avec le contingent des réguliers Marocains qui déjà est cantonné dans cette région.

Ces forces réunies s'emploieront alors à réduire définitivement les Bocoyas insoumis.

Sur la frontière, d'où nous viennent ces renseignements particuliers, on envisage l'éventualité probable d'une révolte des Beni-Snassen.

Cette dernière tribu, qui habite une zone mal définie, ferait cause commune avec les Bocoyas.

Cette révolte pourrait amener des complications et l'intervention de nos troupes sur la frontière. La diplomatie en profiterait alors pour rendre à l'Algérie sa frontière naturelle, qui est la Rivière Moulouia.

Nemours, le 3 Novembre, 1898.

No. 141.

Sir E. Monson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 9.)

(No. 591.)
My Lord, *Paris, November 8, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a despatch which has been addressed to me by the Military Attaché to this Embassy, reporting the formation of three French colonial expeditions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDMUND MONSON.

Inclosure in No. 141.

Lieutenant-Colonel Dawson to Sir E. Monson.

(No. 52.)
Sir, *Paris, November 8, 1898.*

AS an example of French colonial enterprise at this moment, I have the honour to call your Excellency's attention to the following three expeditions, which have just come to my notice.

An expedition will leave Biskra on the 14th instant under Colonel Lugan, of the 3rd Chasseurs d'Afrique, with the avowed object of rescuing Colonel Flatters and his Aide-de-camp, Captain Masson, who are held prisoners by the Chambaas at Figuig.

The column, 700 strong, will consist of four infantry companies, two pelotons of Chasseurs d'Afrique and Spahis, and a section of ambulance train. A strong detachment of engineers, sapeurs-mineurs, drivers, and telegraphists has already preceded this column by three weeks.

The infantry from Batna and Khenchela, the Chasseurs d'Afrique from Constantine, will join the Spahis at Batna.

On the 25th instant, 400 Infanterie de Marine and several officers will leave Marseilles by the Chargeurs Réunis Line for Senegal.

In the French Congo an expedition is planned to start due north from Njole and operate against the Paouins.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DOUGLAS DAWSON,
Military Attaché.

No. 142.

Sir H. Drummond Woff to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 10.)

(No. 389.)
My Lord, *Madrid, November 7, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith translations of two newspaper articles on the subject of the Rio de Oro, and of the reinforcements sent to that place in view of a possible attack upon it by the neighbouring tribes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. DRUMMOND WOLFF.

Inclosure in No. 142.

Notes by Major White.

Extract from the "Ejercito Espanol," November 4, 1898.

RIO DE ORO.—Great alarm has been produced in the public mind by the vague and incoherent news from Teneriffe as regards the attitude said to be taken up by the tribes of the Sahara under Spanish protection.

The lamentable ignorance that exist on the subject, and our impressionable character are the causes of these alarms, which are repeated with an almost chronic regularity, and spread without regard to the grave injuries that our interests may suffer in that region, especially at the present moment.

The news and reports that we have permit us to assert that nothing unusual is going on in the Rio de Oro, and that there is not the remotest probability of the natives menacing or imperilling either our sovereignty or the small but sufficient garrison of the only point between Cape Bogador and Cape Blanco—a coast coveted for its immense fishing banks, which is permanently occupied, and where our flag flies.

Nevertheless, it is asserted that a war-vessel, the "Rapido," with two companies of marines and the necessary supplies, is about to start from Cadiz to reinforce the detachment at the Rio de Oro.

Such a measure will foment the uneasiness of the public mind, and will be both useless and costly.

It should be known in official circles that at Rio de Oro the State possesses no buildings in which to lodge this reinforcement; that the fort and the adjoining buildings belong to a private Company, now in liquidation; that the "Rapido" will have to anchor six miles from the said fort; that, supposing all the difficulties of the disembarkation of the two companies to be overcome, it will necessary to construct at least a sandbag lunette, not for the defence of the said troops, but of the tents in which it is proposed to put them, or else, it is said, they will be so knocked about by the easterly winds that prevail there that there deterioration will be most rapid.

Patriotism commands us to suppress many other criticisms on the groundless alarm and the measures which, it is said, have been taken; but we may be permitted to note, however, the gravity of the situation, not exclusively at the Rio de Oro, but also of the great stretch of coast, about 200 leagues, which has been subject to the Protectorate of Spain since December 1884—a grave state, which is not the result of the

action of the natives, on whose adhesion we can ever rely, if we proceed to effectively act in our sphere of action in that district.

The "Heraldo de Madrid" sufficiently describes the origin of the situation that we are going through, and the only real danger that menaces us.

This is how our colleague describes the condition of that territory:—

Swarming fisheries, in which the Canary Islander toils in his wretched craft; Moorish traders who go to and from the interior and the coast when they know that there are people at the factory who buy from or change for them their cattle, stuffs, hides, gum, &c.; a mercantile Company in which there are scarcely any merchants, the "Hispano-Africa," which does not know how, or cannot, develop itself; another shipping Company, the "Transatlantica" labours, for patriotic reasons, in its endeavour to keep going the scanty trade with that place. And that is all.

Spanish commerce, those mercantile Associations that are so active, so zealous for the welfare and advancement of the country, who do not miss an occasion to protest against the heaviness of taxation, and to pray that pensions and posts may be abolished—this respectable and patriotic social class which, as the Chamber of Commerce of Cartagena tells us, is that which works and produces in order to support the rest of Spain, have neither had strength, nor have they taken steps, to promote the development of trade in a region where there is complete and absolute liberty of commerce.

Do not let us blame, then, either Governments or politicians if one day we lose the Sahara. The African Society and the Government, then presided over by Sir Señor Canovas de Castillo, had no other object to promote, when declaring our Protectorate over that Coast, than to offer markets of great promise to Spanish industry—completely new markets which no one, up till then. had exploited. The co-operation of Spanish commerce and industry was counted on; it was supposed that, like the Germans in Morocco and the French in Indo-China, Companies, or private enterprise, would not hesitate to lose some capital during the first months in order to reap a certain profit later on.

This was also supposed in Europe. In spite of the liberty of commerce, nobody abroad, where markets are so eagerly sought for, attempted competition. But it appears that this is no longer to be the case, and this is what we hear from London.

There is being circulated, in large numbers, the prospectus of a Company for exploiting the coast of Africa, the Spanish part of it, between Capes Bogador and Blanco; there is no lack of seductive promises, and 100,000 1*l.* shares are being issued. The announcement of this Company coincided with the critical period of the Hispano-American war, and, as a better guarantee, it was stated in the prospectus that that coast, with its teeming fisheries, was but a few leagues distant from the Canary Archipelago, whose beautiful and fertile islands would soon have to pass into the hands of the United States . . . . or of England.

With regard to the advantages of the occupation of Rio de Oro, we may say that they are very great, and that they cost us almost nothing. If we abandon it, if will not be long before France or England occupy it, and then we should have to spend large sums in the defence of the Canary Archipelago, whose security would be imperilled by such a neighbour. It was to avoid this grave danger that this coast was occupied.

As it cost us nothing, for the troops in garrison receive the same pay as in the Peninsula, and we have not lost a single life during the occupation, for the climate is so healthy that in the fourteen years we have been there not one single death has occurred, it appears to us that the abandonment of the Rio de Oro would be a declaration of impotence.

We have nothing more to add now. If trade and industry do not know their own interests; if the Government does not create a real Colony there, which should be a dependency of the Captain-Generalship of the Canaries, all will be equally responsible for the conflicts and spoliation from which we shall have to suffer at no very remote date.

Extract from the "Ejercito Espanol" of November 5, 1898.

THE RIO DE ORO AND THE CANARIES.—How we Spaniards fly from one extreme to the other in everything! As regards the Colonies we have passed from extreme avarice to extreme prodigality. A short time ago the very idea that any one could desire to give up Cuba or the cliffs of the Caroline Islands was enough to excite our national *amour propre* to the point of hazarding the last man and the last peseta for the purpose of retaining what we called, with an excess of euphemism, portions of the fatherland. That time has passed, the catastrophe has arrived, and now the possession of any place whatsoever can hardly be called in question than we are tempted to ask that it may be given up. Without seeing that, if the one is bad—and we are reaping the fruits of the excess—the other is equally bad, and its consequences will be no better.

This, however, has actually happened with the Philippines, and also happened, the day before yesterday, with the Rio de Oro.

Apprehensions, totally unjustified up to now, are current concerning an imaginary concentration of Moors, who are going to attack our factory on the African coast; it is said that those who are coming number no less than from 4,000 to 5,000, but it is not remembered that such a large concentration is not possible in the Sahara, and that, even allowing for the effect of mirage, which causes imaginary armies to be seen in the sky, the number of the ragged traders of the Rio de Oro cannot reach that figure. And papers are now being published here, discussing the question whether we should abandon the place before its occupation brings some disaster upon us. Others go further, and agree that the occupation of it brings us no profit.

Truly, it seems an anomaly that certain matters should be discussed; but such we are, and as such we have to be taken, with our many faults and failings. At the end of fourteen years of undisturbed possession of Rio de Oro, the advantages accruing to us from it have not been grasped by our prominent politicians.

As we have said many times, it is because, in Spain, no one remembers that there, sixty hours' journey from the shores of Andalusia, we have the beautiful Canary Archipelago, coveted by every nation, and whose importance increases daily, because it it is on the commercial high roads of the world, which will have to be followed in an immediate future.

Setting aside how much it suits us to have interests in Africa, if we are to take thought of our future as a nation; setting aside what this factory might be if our Chambers of Commerce, instead of meddling with other peoples' business, as they are now doing, were to devote themselves to pushing trade and promoting commerce, which is the sole reason of their existence; setting aside, we repeat, all these and many other considerations, which we might make on the same lines, the security of the Canary Archipelago imposes on us the unavoidable duty of preserving the whole of the Rio de Oro coast, not because we have it, but lest it should fall into other hands.

If England were established on the coast of the Rio de Oro, what security would there be for the Canaries, situated within some twenty-four hours' of it, the more so that these islands do not possess the means to support an increased garrison.

It is not that alone: another most important point must be kept in mind. The occupation by England of a portion of the coast between Capes Blanco and Bogador might offer checks and difficulties to the Canary fishermen working in the fisheries of those waters.

Do those who talk of the possible abandonment of the Rio de Oro know that the fish caught on the coast of Africa, together with gofio (?), forms the staple food of the population of the Canaries? Do not the reactionaries know that any check, any inconvenience to these fisheries, which the illustrious Beshteht (*sic*) has proved to be richer even than the celebrated banks of Newfoundland, would cause to the life of the people of the Canaries?

Let them cease then to discuss the probability of the abandonment of the little that remains to us in the world; and, above all, before speaking, let them study the question, the more so the less they understand of it.

(Signed) W. L. WHITE, *Major,*
Military Ataché.

Madrid, November 8, 1898.

No. 143.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir H. Drummond Wolff.

(No. 270.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 10, 1898.

WITH reference to your Excellency's despatch No. 379 of the 29th ultimo, inclosing notes on Morocco by the Military Attaché to Her Majesty's Embassy, I request that you will transmit duplicates of all such communications to Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier by the usual messenger to Gibraltar, whence they can be forwarded by British packet.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY

No. 144.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 11.)

(No. 61.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 11, 1898.

I HAVE been informed by the Italian Minister that in order to procure the liberation of an Italian protégé who has been detained by the Moorish authorities for some time, an Italian ship of war will shortly proceed to the Morocco coast.

No. 145.

Mr. M. Sabbah to Foreign Office.—(Received November 12.)

56, *Gt. Prescott Street, Goodman's Fields, London, November* 10, 1898.

Sir,

I BEG to inquire if any compensation for the ill-treatment experienced by myself and other members of the steam-yacht "Tourmaline" at the hands of the Moorish authorities in Sûs has been received by your Department on our behalf. Full particulars have already been furnished through Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, and I shall be glad to learn if you have been successful in obtaining any compensation for our sufferings.

I am, &c.
(Signed) M. SABBAH.

No. 146.

Sir E. Monson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 12.)

(No. 601.)
My Lord, *Paris, November* 11, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, to your Lordship, a despatch which has been addressed to me by the Military Attaché in this Embassy, reporting M. Leroy-Beaulieu's views as to the construction of the Trans-Sahara Railway.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDMUND MONSON.

Inclosure in No. 146.

Lieutenant-Colonel Dawson to Sir E. Monson.

(No. 53.)
Sir, *Paris, November* 11, 1898.

WITH reference to the expedition which is shortly to start from Biskra with Ouargla as its first objective, there is a great deal of talk now in favour of constructing a Trans-Saharien Railway.

M. Leroy-Beaulieu, in an interview which is published in the "France Militaire"

of yesterday, says that though France has gained many successes by her colonial expeditions from west to east and from south to north, no serious attempt has been made to penetrate from north to south. Though peculiarly favoured in this respect by reason of her military strength in Algeria and Tunis no advantage has been taken of it by France, and yet here she holds in her hand the answer to the snub administered her by England over Fashoda.

When M. Freycinet was Minister of Public Works a scheme for constructing the Trans-Saharien Railway was brought forward on commercial grounds and refused by the Government because of its estimated cost—800,000,000 to 900,000,000 fr. for the 2,000 kilom. necessary.

M. Beaulieu's contention is that the railway has now become a political and military necessity, for it would be manifestly absurd if the entry to the Nile is closed to depend for the "ravitaillement dans le Bahr-el-Ghazal et sur le Haut-Nil," on a long arduous perilous route by the Congo and Oubanghi.

With a garrison of over 60,000 men in Algiers and Tunis a train travelling 20 kilom. an hour would traverse the desert in four days, and France could throw from 4,000 to 10,000 men into the Lake Tchad districts, a force far superior to that available for any other Power, England not excepted. For this it would not be necessary to command the sea, as the garrison of Algeria and Tunis is amply sufficient to provide the expedition, and at the same time protect these countries from outside aggression.

As regards the cost of this railway, taking the Sfax–Gafsa Railway at 60,000 fr. a kilometre, you can estimate the cost of this line, which would cross a country under the same conditions. Thus, the 2,500 kilom. to Lake Tchad would cost 150,000,000 fr., or putting it half as high again as the Sfax Railway, 225,000,000 fr.; a mere bagatelle when compared with the important results it would achieve.

On the subject of whether the line will pay M. Beaulieu talks vaguely of minerals, phosphates, nitrates, &c., and he concludes by expressing his opinion that as a preliminary it is absolutely necessary to occupy the Touat Oasis, which will give France complete supremacy over the Touareg tribes and districts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DOUGLAS DAWSON,
Military Attaché.

No. 147.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 14.)

(No. 148.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November* 2, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Vice-Consul Bewicke, relative to the measures which the Moorish Government is adopting towards the Bocoya tribes in the Riff district.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 147.

Vice-Consul Bewicke to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 52.)
Sir, *Tetuan, Morocco, October* 30, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to report that it is rumoured here that the Bocoyan territory has been or is to be divided among the three neighbouring tribes, and that the officer in command of His Shereefian Majesty's forces has informed the Ghromara tribe that unless they give up the Bocoyans they are harbouring he will attack them.

It is further said that orders have been given that in future no Riff boats are to load grain. If this is a fact it will tell hardly on this town, as usually a good quantity of the grain used here has been received from the Riff.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. S. BEWICKE.

No. 148.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 14.)

(No. 149.)

My Lord, *Tangier, November* 6, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith translation of a note which I have received from the Grand Vizier, in reply to the communication which I sent to him by Her Majesty's ships "Hawke" and "Scylla," and a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch No. 141 of the 21st ultimo. His Excellency's note had been sent to Mazagan to await the return of the vessels, and it only reached my hands last evening. The note concedes the three demands which were formulated, namely, the release of all the prisoners, the payment of the indemnity, and the punishment of Kaïd Shteewy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 148.

Cid Hamed-ben-Moussa to Sir A. Nicolson.

(After compliments.)

WE received your letter dated the 4th instant, stating that you had been expecting to receive our reply to you relative to your request in the matter of the cases of the mokhalats who had been seized by their Governors up to the 3rd of the present month, but you had not received any reply, and that therefore you had sent two war vessels to the port of Mazagan accompanying that letter, and you request that haste be made to have a reply to it at the port of Mazagan before the 11th of this month, containing a compliance with the demands, viz., the release of the prisoners and the payment of an indemnity which you fix, and the punishment of the Kaïd who had seized Oold Hadj Mokhtar-el-Haseeni and those with him. We are aware of the whole. As to the replies to your letters, they were all sent to the last, the last being dated the 4th of this month; and as to the release of those imprisoned it has taken place; as to the indemnities, we have previously replied charging the Amin Cid Benasser Ghanam to meet you and settle with you about them. You will have received this letter. A further imperative command was sent to him on the 4th of this month; and as to the Governor, it had been explained to the Amin Cid Benasser Ghanam what he should say to you verbally about him, and it happened that the Shereefian order for his punishment had been issued when your letter arrived. It is not hidden from you, oh friend, in this matter, that great severity has occurred and pressure against the Shereefian Government, until it has ended in sending the letter by vessels and the return of the vessels on this account. Notwithstanding you know well the state of the country-people, Mokhalateen and others, and the friendship and consideration established between the exalted Government of Great Britain and this Shereefian Government in the past and present are not in accord with this severe treatment, more especially with your mediation, from whose friendship much was expected.

May you continue, &c.

Finished 7 Jumad II, 1316 (24th October, 1898).

(Signed) HAMED-BEN-MOUSSA-BEN-HAMED.

No. 149.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 14.)

(No. 150.)

My Lord, *Tangier, November* 6, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 138 of the 13th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Consul Maclean, with its inclosures, relative to the ill-treatment inflicted by Kaïd Shteewy on Mr. Reid's semsar and mokhalats.

With reference to the refusal of the Kadi to permit the statements to be taken in a legal form, I should mention that I had been informed some time ago that the Kadis had general instructions to decline to sanction Adools or public notaries taking down statements affecting the conduct of any public official. I wrote to the Grand Vizier on the subject, pointing out that not only were such instructions, if they had really been issued, scarcely of a nature to promote the ends of justice, but they would also remove all checks on exaggerated or unfounded statements of parties who alleged that they had been injured. I have not yet received a reply from his Excellency.

The statements which are herewith inclosed give in fuller detail the reports which I have already had the honour to transmit to your Lordship. I propose to forward a translation of them to the Grand Vizier, and to inquire of him what punishment he intends to administer to the offending Kaïd, whom I hear privately has already been arrested.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 149.

Consul Maclean to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 116.)

Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, October* 29, 1898.

IMMEDIATELY on receipt of your Excellency's despatch No. 69 of the 13th instant I sent off an express courier with an invitation to Mr. Reid to have sworn statements taken down by the Adools as to the particulars attending the arrest and detention of his men by Kaïd Shteewy.

In a despatch I yesterday received from Mr. Vice-Consul Hunot, he informs me that the Kadi would not consent to the Adools taking down the statements.

I inclose, for your Excellency's information, the copy of Mr. Hunot's written request, and the reply thereto.

I also transmit herewith declarations made before Mr. Vice-Consul Hunot by the people who were imprisoned.

These declarations not only confirm the details already in your Excellency's possession, but expose the further ill-treatment the prisoners, particularly the mother and her infant child, were subjected to on their journey back from Marakesh to their homes.

I would further call attention to Kaïd Shteewy's abusive observations towards Mr. Reid and Christians in general.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 149.

Kaïd Hamza-ben-Hima to Vice-Consul Hunot.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.) 5 *Jumad II*, 1316.

WE have received your letter stating that Mr. Reid had complained to you that he had requested the Adools to take down the statement of his semsar, Cid Mohammed-ben-el-Hadj Mokhtar, and that of others with him who are mokhalateen. They (the Adools) refused to write, saying to him they would not write those except they had the authority of the Facquee the Kadi, and you request me to address the Facquee the Kadi that he may authorize the writing of such statements.

I have to inform you that I have shown him (meaning the Kadi) your letter, and he states, in reply, that this matter of writing demanded is not within the duties of the Adools, being beyond the limits of the Shrâa jurisdiction, for which alone the Adools are appointed.

Friendship and peace.

(Official seal.) (Signed) HAMZA-BEN-HIMA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 149.

Vice-Consul Hunot to Kaïd Hamza-ben-Hima.

(After compliments.) *October* 20, 1898.

I HAVE to inform you that Mr. Reid, the Englishman, has complained to me that he has requested the Adools to take down in writing the declarations of his semsar and Mokhalateen; that the Adools had refused, saying that they could not write such declarations without authority from the Facquee-el-Kadi. Therefore I request that your Excellency will communicate with the Facquee to order them to write the said declarations.

Thanking you, and with perfect friendship and peace, 20th October last.

(Signed) GEORGE P. HUNOT.

Inclosure 4 in No. 149.

Declarations by Mohamed-bil-Hadj Mukhtar-el-Haseeny, M'hamed-bil-Hadj Mukhtar, Hamed-ben-Mesoud, Hadj-el-Hasin Shiedmy, and the mother of Mohamed-bil-Hadj Mukhtar.

(Translation.)

APPEARED before me, Cid Mohamed-ben-Hadj Mukhtar-el-Amery-el-Hasseeny, semsar of the firm of Mr. Reid, complaining of what happened to him through Kaïd Shtuwy-ben-Teeby-el-Hermooshy, and relating it as follows, word by word:—

"I was asleep early in the morning of the date 20th Moharrem, when there came upon us the above-mentioned Kaïd at our house, and with him a great number of men with guns, knives, and sticks, who seized me and cut me on the head with a knife, a bad cut; it was Haida-ben-Dahan (who cut me); and they took me out of the house by force and set me before the above-mentioned Kaïd at the door of my house, and made me stand there until they brought out my brothers, my mother, my brother-in-law, and my friend (Hadj-el-Hasin), as their names have been described, and their complaints; and they tied my hands behind my back, tightly tied, and also (the hands) of my brothers, my mother, brother-in-law, and my friend before-mentioned.

"When it was morning they brought out the animals—camels, horses, mules, sheep, cows, and donkeys—and cash and house effects and goods of silver and brass and guns and daggers, and other things of that sort, until there was nothing left in the house, and us he took to his house and put us in his prison, then took me out again and threw me on the ground and scourged me until I was overwhelmed, and that was after abusive language against me and against the merchant (Mr. Reid). He said to me: 'Why did you go to the Christians and get their protection? they cannot help you now;' and they again beat me severely, and further reproached me, and returned me to prison. They secured me by the neck to a chain, and put irons on my hands and feet, and I was in that prison for ten days, after which they took me out and put me in an underground pit ('matamora') with my brothers, my mother and sister, and my brother-in-law and my friend, and we found no room in the pit as it was small, and we were in it for ten days also; and after that they put us into another 'matamora,' and we were in it for four days, and that 'matamora' was very small—it was only 1¼ fathom wide—and they put in it along with me my brothers, my mother, my brother-in-law, and my friend, and there was no room in it, and it was so small that we were dying in it from the oppression and the irons that were on our hands and feet, and the chain on our necks, and we could not lie down in it, and, besides that, they shut the door on us, and we could see nothing but darkness until, if we had been left there another day, we should all have died. After that, they took us out of that 'matamora' in the night, and there was none of us who could walk unaided; we leaned on his men (the Kaïd's), until they put us again into the first 'matamora,' and we remained in it eight days, when one of his men came down to examine our irons lest we should get them off, and the man fainted from the stifling air that we were in, and he nearly died. They threw down a box of matches and a candle that he might see us, but when he tried to strike the matches they would not burn from the hot and foul air and sweat, and in that we were attached to each other by one chain and none of us could get apart to relieve ourselves, as is apparent. They then took us from the 'matamora' to another, and there divided us, and put me with my brother M'hamed and my brother-in-law Hamed in one 'matamora,' and my mother and my brother Abdelkebir and my sister and Hadj-el-Hasin in another 'matamora,' for fourteen days, and from there in a tower above ground, not under, and the width of it 1¼ fathom, and the door was always shut, and never opened at all except once a day that they might bring in our food and water, and the water they set in the sun (before bringing) until it was hot, and the food was a hard loaf, or less than that, to each of us, and we were in that tower for a month and a-half. From there we were taken to Morocco by Sultan's soldiers, and those soldiers, when they met people on the way, took from them their animals, and made us ride on their camels after they had taken them, saying, 'These are the Sultan's prisoners,' until they (the owners) redeemed their animals by paying money, then they made us get on our donkeys again, and that was their practice on the road; and at night they put us in the Kaïd named ben-Bok, until we reached Morocco, and we saw the Vizier, and were there eight days, when we were taken to the house of Kaïd Shteewy-el-Hermooshy, and they delivered to us our property in the presence of the Sultan's Anim and Adool, and released us."

Praise be to God.

Peace.

After the above presented himself, Cid M'hamed-bil-Hadj Mukhtar Haseeny, mokhalat to the before-mentioned firm, and declared that the same happened to him, through the before-mentioned Kaïd, that happened to his brother, the semsar, already mentioned, namely, being taken, his hands tied behind his back, scourged, and maltreated, and imprisoned, &c., as is written down above.

Afterwards presented himself their brother-in-law, Cid Hamed-bin-Mesoud, of Saffi, overseer of the business of the afore-mentioned firm in buying and selling, &c., as required by the merchant, and we heard from him that he went out to some of the country markets to buy beans for the firm and to see about the harvest, and he was brought by the fate (providence) of God that night to the house of his brother-in-law, Cid Mohamed-bil-Hadj Mokhtar, and Cid M'hamed before mentioned, and that happened to him which happened to his brother-in-law, namely, being taken, and they took from him the money which he had to buy the beans afore-mentioned, and other things; and the Kaïd went off to his house, and they took him (Hamed) with them, and drove him on with their horses, and hit him with the buts of their guns, and his hands were tied behind his back, tied tightly, so that they were being cut, until they reached the house of the Kaïd, when they threw him on the ground, and twelve men held him down, three at each hand and three at each leg, and they flogged him severely, as related, from his heels up to his head, so that his flesh was cut, and the blood flowing therefrom; and they abused him greatly, and also the firm and the nation (English), and he (the Kaïd) said to him, "Why do you not come and work with me amongst my other men? You only like the Christians and their work," and he swore that he would punish him until he made him leave the Christian's service. After that they put him in prison, and (from that time) he suffered the same as his friends until they were released.

After them presented himself Hadj-el-Hasin Shiedmy, mokhalat of the afore-mentioned firm, living at the house of the sons of Hadj Mukhtar, who declared that on the night of the seizure of his friends he was sleeping away from the house, guarding the grain; he awoke from sleep, and went to the house of his friends to take the camels to lift the reaped grain; when he got to the house there came Kaïd Shteewy-ben-Teeby Hermooshy to the said house, and with him a great many people with guns, knives, and sticks, as before related, and that occurred to him which occurred to the semsar and mokhalat and their mother and brother and sister, and their brother-in-law, namely, being taken, his hands tied, scourged, and maltreated, as related, and except that he was separated from them (the semsar and mokhalateen) fourteen days along with the mother and her boy Abdelkebir and her child, after which they were all confined in one place until they were released.

Afterwards also appeared the woman Oomhany, mother of the afore-mentioned semsar, and with her the boy Abdelkebir and her little daughter, still unweaned, and she declared that Kaïd Shteewy-ben-Teeby Hermooshy came to the house of her son, the afore-mentioned semsar, and with him a great many men with weapons, as related, and went in to her where she was sleeping with her little boy Abdelkebir and her little girl above-mentioned, and himself seized her along with his soldiers, and put her out with her boy and girl by force, and joined her sons and son-in-law and Hadj-el-Kasin at the door. When taken she said to him (the Kaïd), "I am only a woman, what have you to do with me and the children." He replied, "go out with your sons, if they die you will die with them, and if they live you will likewise live." And there went with her his soldiers and took her to the Kaïd's house, and he commanded to put her in prison, and afterwards commanded to bring her out again, and threw her on the ground, and held her in the presence of the tribe, all laughing at her and at her sons and son-in-law, and there were holding her down eight men, four at her hands and four at her feet, and scourged her, and that also after abusing her and them, and he (the Kaïd) said to her, "Why did you not inform me when your sons went to the Christians to seek protection?" And he commanded to put her in prison with them (her sons, &c.) again, and she suffered greatly from being (confined) put with her sons, her son-in-law, and Hadj-el-Hasin, and her infant child was nearly dying as she had nothing to give her to eat or drink, and the child knew nothing but to cry seeing she suffered from hunger and thirst, the heated foul air, worms, and from the confinement and darkness, until they were taken from there and taken to Morocco; and they mounted her on a donkey on the road, although she was ill and her child in her arms, and she was not able to ride on the donkey or to hold her child, and often she fell from the donkey on to the road along with her child, how they put her on the donkey and she would fall again until she was scarcely conscious of her movements; and at a house where they slept there was a running river, near the city of Morocco, into which she fell, from the donkey fright at the water, and she and the child were ill, seeing that they were in the hot sun all day during the journey; and on nearing Morocco, while she was riding on the donkey with her child on her back, the donkey jumped over a stream and she fell from it on her child, so that they thought the child was killed.

Ultimately she reached Morocco and saw the Vizier and she remained there eight days, when she was returned in the sun till she reached the house of Kaïd Taher-bil-Bashere, and met with Mr. Reid there, who requested from the Sultan's officers that she should be released and allowed to go home seeing that she and her child were both ill, but they refused to allow it, and they took her to the house of Kaïd-ben-Teeby Hermooshy, and she was there in the sun three days in the open with Sultan's soldiers, but they were in their tents whereas she was in the sun until God released her, and the child is still ill up to the present time.

I hereby certify that the above Declarations were duly made before me. Witness my hand and seal at Saffi this 24th day of October, 1898.

(Signed) GEORGE P. HUNOT,
British Vice-Consul.

(Consular seal.)

No. 150.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 14.)

(No. 151. Confidential.)

My Lord, *Tangier, November 6, 1898.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 146 of the 27th ultimo, I have the honour to state that I have been privately informed from the Court that the most recent news received from Tafilet is more serious, and that the Moorish Government is disposed to believe that French emissaries are fomenting the discontent, and have given the malcontents to understand that they will receive support from outside. The Moorish Government is now dispatching a strong expedition from Morocco city under Cid Mohammed-el-Marani to Tafilet, which will proceed by the Glovia Pass over the Atlas Mountains.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 151.

Mr. H. Grey to Foreign Office.—(Received November 15.)

Sir, *Primrose Club, St. James's Street, November 14, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to report my arrival in England, after serving four months' imprisonment at Gibraltar for "illegally importing arms and ammunition into Moroquine territory." In passing that sentence the Chief Justice of Gibraltar stated that he had not taken into consideration the ill-treatment I had received at the hands of the Moorish officials, details of which have been already reported to you, as that would form the basis of a claim for compensation against the Moorish Government.

I shall be glad to hear, therefore, what steps are being taken to recover from the Sultan's Government such compensation for the gross violation of Treaty rights, and illegal imprisonment and ill-treatment, as shall be deemed adequate under the circumstances.

I take this opportunity of informing you that when I embarked on the "Tourmaline" expedition I was not aware of its illegal character. I knew that Sir Edward Thornton, the Chairman of the Globe Venture Syndicate, Limited, had been told by the Foreign Office "that if Major Spilsbury were to return to Sûs, he would do so at his own risk;" and also that the British Consul at Las Palmas "had received cable instructions from Lord Salisbury to persuade me (the Major) not to go to Sûs, as it was unsafe, and that if I went there, it would be at my own risk." It is not, however, the actions of the Sûsi that I complain of, but those of the Moorish officials both in Sûs and in Morocco itself.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HENRY M. GREY.

No. 152.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 15.)

(No. 62.)

(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 15, 1898.*

ARREST of Italian protégé.

My telegram No. 61 of the 11th instant.

The question pending between the two Governments will, I think, be settled without the intervention of the Italian man-of-war which arrived here to-day.

No. 153.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 106.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, November 15, 1898.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 145 of the 6th ultimo, reporting the payment of the indemnity demanded of the Moorish Government for the detention of certain semsars and other British-protected persons.

I approve the course which you propose to take with regard to the distribution of the indemnity and as to the disposal of any surplus remaining after the satisfaction of all reasonable claims upon the amount.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 154.

Mr. A. G. de Reya to Foreign Office.—(*Received November* 16.)

19, *St. Stephen's Road, Bayswater,*
London, November 10, 1898.

Dear Sir,

YOU asked me the other day, when I saw you at the Foreign Office, as to what compensation I would take from the Globe Venture, and also what I expect to get from the Moorish Government. Considering the way the Globe Venture have treated me, I think I fully deserve 100*l.* from them, and from the Moorish Government feel entitled to 1,000*l.*, as English-protected people in Morocco, who have not suffered so much as I, who, being an Englishman, has, have had claims paid to them. Therefore, I appeal to Lord Salisbury for my compensation.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) A. G. DE REYA.

P.S.—Independent of the hardships, I have lost about one year's work; also a good post in Canada.

A. G. de R.

No. 155.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 17.)

(No. 63.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November* 17, 1898.

ARREST of Italian protégé.

My telegram No. 62 of the 16th instant.

The question pending between the Italian Minister was to be settled by a Moorish delegate here, but he, it appears, has no full powers to order the protégé to be liberated, and is consequently asking further instructions, which he expects to receive in fifteen days' time. In the meantime the Italian man-of-war will return to Gibraltar to await further developments, after having previously paid a friendly visit to some Moorish ports.

No. 156.

Mr. H. Weber to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 18.)

My Lord Marquess, 10, *Cavendish Square, W., November* 16, 1898.

I MADE last year a "sporting" journey in Morocco with perfect success and safety, and I propose in the course of the next few months to make another, extending my travels much further in the interior, unless your Lordship is in possession of any information which, in your Lordship's opinion, would render such a proceeding unwise or undesirable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HARRY WEBER.

No. 157.

Consul-General Newton to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 19.)

(No. 12.)
My Lord, *Algiers, November* 14, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a cutting from the "Dépêche Algérienne" of the 4th instant. As I understood the column in question was only a column of manœuvre, I did not consider it of sufficient importance to transmit sooner to your Lordship. Within the last few days, however,

it has been reported, with what truth I cannot say, that its real destination is Tuat, though I can hardly believe this to be the case, as, had it been so, I should have thought the column would have started from the Department of Oran, instead of from Bishra, in the Department of Constantine.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. HAY NEWTON.

Inclosure in No. 157.

Extract from "La Dépêche Algérienne" of November 4, 1898.

LA colonne Saharienne pour Ouargla si souvent démentie partira de Biskra le 7 Novembre. Elle se compose de 700 hommes de différentes armes. Elle comprend quatre compagnies d'infanterie légère d'Afrique, deux pelotons de Chasseurs d'Afrique et de Spahis, une section du train et des ambulances, un fort détachement de sapeurs du génie et de mineurs.

Les sapeurs, les conducteurs, et les télégraphistes sont déjà partis depuis trois semaines. Toutes les autres unités opèrent un mouvement de concentration sur Biskra. Les compagnies du bataillon d'Afrique partent, deux de Kenchela, deux de Batna. Les Chasseurs d'Afrique partis de Constantine rejoindront les Spahis à Batna.

Le Colonel Lugan, des Chasseurs d'Afrique, commande la colonne. Le Capitaine Blondin, de l'État-Major de la division de Constantine, est Chef d'État-Major. Il a auprès de lui le Capitaine Pinoteau.

Le Capitaine Larchey, fils et officier d'Ordonnance du Commandant du 19e Corps d'Armée, suivra les opérations.

Constantine, le 2 *Novembre*, 1898.

No. 158.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 21.)

(No. 152.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November* 8, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 37 of the 19th March last, I have the honour to state that the Moorish Government has informed the Diplomatic Body that it consents to the arrangement proposed in regard to the restitution of the excess export duty paid on coriander seed. The merchants will be reimbursed the excess duty paid up to the 31st December, 1897, and from that date the duty will be levied at the rate of half-a-dollar per cwt.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 159.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 21.)

(No. 153.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November* 11, 1898.

THE Italian Minister told me to-day that he had been informed by his Government that an Italian man-of-war would arrive very shortly at Tangier to support his demand for the release of an Italian semsar, who has been detained in prison at Mazagan for some time past. M. de Malmusi explained to me that this individual had been arrested some three months ago, and that last month he had addressed a note to the Grand Vizier requesting the liberation of the man, and stating that he expected a satisfactory reply by the 24th instant. To this communication he had received no reply, and the Italian vessel, the "Umbria," was to arrive here on the 13th instant and proceed to Mazagan in order to await there a solution of the question. Should the allotted term expire and no satisfactory solution have been obtained, the Italian Government would then consider the necessity of employing coercive measures.

M. de Malmusi said he was a little perplexed as to what measures it would be wiser to adopt should the necessity for them arise; and he inquired of me what course Her Majesty's ships would have taken if our demands had not been complied with. I told M. de Malmusi the measures which had been in contemplation, and I begged him to treat this information as strictly confidential, as it would be undesirable to allow it to be known what coercive steps would, in certain circumstances, be taken.

M. de Malmusi thanked me for the information, and promised to respect the confidence I had placed in him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 160.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 21.)

(No. 154.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November* 12, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 150 of the 6th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a note which I have addressed to the Grand Vizier, communicating to his Excellency the statements of those who were ill-treated by Kaïd Shteewy, and requesting to be informed what punishment it is proposed to inflict upon him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 160.

Sir A. Nicolson to Hamed-ben-Moussa.

Tangier, November 12, 1898
(After compliments.) (26 *Jumad II*, 1316).

IN a former note I informed your Excellency of the ill-treatment to which the semsar, his family, and the mohalateen who had been seized by Kaïd Shteewy-el-Hermooshy had been subjected; and I gave your Excellency an account in general terms of what had occurred.

I now have the honour to transmit statements made by the individuals in question before the British Vice-Consul at Saffi, giving details of their ill-treatment. I had desired to have these statements sworn to and taken down by Adools, but the Kadi of Saffi declined to permit the Adools to do so. This action on the part of the Kadi will, I am sure, be disapproved of by your Excellency. In your note of the 24th October, 1898, you stated that Shereefian orders had been issued for the punishment of Kaïd Shteewy for the cruel manner in which he had treated these unfortunate people, and I have no doubt, after a perusal of the statements which I now transmit, that the punishment will be a severe and exemplary one.

I must ask your Excellency to inform me what measures the Moorish Government had adopted towards Kaïd Shteewy, so that I may report to my Government that your Excellency has appreciated the gravity of the offence committed by the above-mentioned Kaïd, and has marked in a proper and fitting manner your high disapproval of his conduct in violating Treaty stipulations, and in aggravating that illegal act by deeds which I need not characterize.

May you rest, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 161.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 21.)

(No. 155.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November* 13, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 109 of the 5th August last, I have the honour to transmit copy of a letter which I have received from Mr. Byrne, one of the

Directors of the Adrar Concessions Syndicate, and of my reply. General Seager was formally a resident here, and from what I gather is scarcely a competent person to inaugurate a banking institution. Moreover, there is no opening for any fresh banking enterprises in this country. I am unaware whether the Syndicate has approached the Spanish authorities with a view of obtaining their countenance and support to the projected undertaking.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 161.

Mr. J. Byrne to Sir A. Nicolson.

Adrar Concessions Syndicate,
Sir, 95, *High Holborn, London, November* 7, 1898.

WITH reference to your letter of the 15th July, 1898, to the Secretary of this Syndicate, I beg leave to inform you that we do not intend to go into the territory belonging to His Majesty the Sultan of Morocco.

At the same time I fail to see how His Majesty can lay claim to the country between Cape Bogador and Wad Nun (excepting, of course, Cape Juby).

I may mention that this Syndicate is desirous of working in harmony and under the protection of the Spanish Government.

A gentleman named General Seager, who is here in London, being desirous of forming an English bank, under the title of the Bank of Morocco, Limited, with a capital of 1,000,000*l.*, and which is already registered, has referred me to you as to his respectability and responsibility, and possibly you may see your way either confidentially or officially to give me some information as to whether he is an honourable man.

He has sold me his option to purchase the banking business of Haim Benchimol of Tangier. At the same time you might give me your opinion as to the needs and possible success of such a bank.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. BYRNE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 161.

Sir A. Nicolson to Mr. J. Byrne.

Sir, *Tangier, November* 13, 1898.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, and to state, in reply, that I am not personally acquainted with General Seager, and am unable to give you the information you desire. Personally, I should think there were already sufficient institutions at Tangier to carry on all the banking business at present required in the country.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 162.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 21.)

(No. 157.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November* 17, 1898.

THE Italian man-of-war, the "Umbria," arrived here on the 13th instant, and on the same day the Italian Minister received a note from the Grand Vizier, informing him that a Moorish functionary resident here had been given full powers to settle the question of the imprisoned semsar. This functionary, Cid Gannam, visited M. de Malmusi, and at the first interview gave the latter to understand that he was authorized to order the liberation of the imprisoned man, but subsequently, on being pressed for an assurance in writing, it appeared that his full powers were of a shadowy

character, and that he could arrange nothing without further reference to the Court.

He has consequently addressed a communication to the Moorish Government, and hopes to receive a reply in fifteen days.

In the meantime, the Italian Minister has instructed the "Umbria" to pay a friendly visit to some of the Moorish ports, and then to return to Gibraltar to await the reply from the Moorish Government.

M. de Malmusi tells me that he is confident that his Government will insist on a prompt solution of the question, and he further informed me that the semsar had been in detention for fourteen months. He explained that he had not taken up the matter seriously till lately, as he was anxious, in the first place, to arrange the question relative to the indemnity to be paid on account of the Riff piracy case, the settlement of which I reported in my despatch No. 137 of the 11th ultimo. He also purposed to demand an indemnity, but this point he reserved for future consideration, as the merchants were not yet in a position to estimate the losses to which they had been subjected by the detention of their semsar.

M. de Malmusi hopes that the preliminary friendly visit of the man-of-war may not necessitate further measures, and will hasten a solution. On the other hand, the amicable visit may be misinterpreted, and not considered as a prelude to serious measures.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 163.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 21.)

(No. 64.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, November 21, 1898.*

SPILSBURY Appeal.

I hear leave to appeal has been granted by Privy Council. As the date at present fixed for the trial is the 1st December, I should be grateful to know whether adjournment beyond that date will be necessary, owing to the hearing of the Appeal. The officers of the Moorish steamer, which is continually required down the coast, are the only witnesses for the prosecution, and it would be difficult to guarantee their presence at a later date, though I think their attendance on the 1st December is secured.

No. 164.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 109.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November 21, 1898.*

I TRANSMIT to you a copy of a letter from Mr. Harry Weber,* stating that he proposes to travel in the interior of Morocco in the course of the next few months, and asking whether, in my opinion, such a proceeding would be unwise or undesirable.

Mr. Weber also states that he made a sporting tour in the interior last year with safety; but he omits to mention what district he then visited, or what part of the country he now proposes to visit.

I have informed Mr. Weber that it is doubtful how far it may be advisable for travellers to penetrate into the interior, and that I have referred the matter to you for your opinion.

I request that you will report your views on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

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* No. 156.

No. 165.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 110.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November 22, 1898.*

I HAVE received your despatch No. 150 of the 6th instant, inclosing a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Dar-el-Baida, respecting the ill-treatment inflicted by Kaïd Shteewy on Mr. Reid's semsar and mokhalats.

I approve your proposed communication to the Grand Vizier on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 166.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 111.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November 22, 1898.*

I HAVE received and considered your despatches Nos. 95 and 96 of the 8th July last, respecting the treatment received, while in the hands of the Moorish authorities, by those members of the crew of the steam-yacht "Tourmaline" who landed in the Sûs country, and who were subsequently tried and found guilty by His Majesty's Supreme Court for Morocco on a charge of smuggling goods into the Sultan's dominions, in violation of the provisions of Article 107 of the Morocco Order in Council.

In the latter of these despatches you also raise the question of returning some reply to the requests for indemnities and other measures put forward by the Government of Morocco in connection with Major Spilsbury's expedition.

In view of the fact that the prisoners were implicated in a premeditated and deliberate attempt to raise a rebellion against the authority of the Sultan of Morocco, Her Majesty's Government have, after due consideration, decided to abstain from demanding pecuniary compensation from the Moorish Government for the treatment which the captives received in prison, and are of opinion that the requirements of the case would be met by an expression of regret on the part of that Government, and by a severe censure of Kaïd Guilooly.

With regard to the claim advanced by the Shereefian Government, on account of the "Tourmaline" expedition, I authorize you to inform the Grand Vizier that all those who could be prosecuted have been prosecuted, and adequately punished, except the leader, who has been forced to leave the army, and has since been arrested in England, and is now awaiting trial at Gibraltar, but that Her Majesty's Government regret that they are unable to grant compensation. No legal means exist in this country for compelling the parties implicated in the expedition to disburse such an amount, and Her Majesty's Government are not in a position to apply to Parliament for a vote out of public funds for the purpose.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 167.

*Foreign Office to Messrs. Lowless.**

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, November 22, 1898.*

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 17th August last, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to state to you that, in view of the fact that all those persons who landed in the Sûs country from the steam-yacht "Tourmaline" were implicated in a premeditated and deliberate attempt to raise a rebellion against the authority of the Sultan of Morocco, Her Majesty's Government have, after due consideration, decided to abstain from demanding pecuniary compensation from the

* Also to Mr. M. Sabbah, Mr. A. G. de Reya, and Mr. H. Grey.

Moorish Government for the treatment which the captives received in prison, and are of opinion that the requirements of the case would be met by an expression of regret on the part of that Government and by a severe censure of Kaïd Gilooly.

Instructions have been sent to Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier to this effect.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 168.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 43.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Foreign Office November* 24, 1898.

WITH reference to your telegram No. 64 of the 21st instant, I learn that the hearing of the appeal in regard to the trial of Major Spilsbury could not take place before February next, even if the defendant were to use his best efforts to accelerate the proceedings, a course which he is hardly likely to take.

It is therefore certain that the trial at Gibraltar must be adjourned beyond the day now fixed. It is likely to be adjourned *sine die* by the Court there, so that after the appeal has been heard, a convenient day may be fixed for the trial.

No. 169.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(*Received November* 26.)

(No. 156.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November* 17, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 117 of the 20th August last, I have the honour to report that Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez states that he hears that Shereefian orders have been received by the Governor of that town to see that the prisons are cleaned and whitewashed, and that the prisoners are supplied with a regular and increased allowance of food.

Mr. Macleod adds that the prisons in Fez are much overcrowded and very dirty, and he considers that if the above-mentioned orders are efficiently executed, a great improvement will take place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON

No. 170.

Sir M. Gosselin to Foreign Office.—(*Received November* 28.)

My dear Sanderson, *Blakesware, Ware, November* 27, 1898.

I RETURN herewith the papers sent me in your letter of the 25th about Mr. Grey.

On his return from Gibraltar a few weeks ago Mr. Grey called on me several times. He maintained that nothing was ever said to him as to the illegality of the "Tourmaline" expedition, and that he had understood that the warnings given to the Syndicate and Major Spilsbury had reference only to the personal risk run by the members of the expedition.

I told him that he was mistaken; that the warnings drew attention to the illegality of the undertaking; that the two men (De Reya and Last) were probably ignorant of the aims and objects of the cruise, but that a man in his position must, I thought, have been aware of what was intended before starting.

This he did not deny, but he protested over and over again that he had no knowledge of the illegality of the expedition, and that he proposed to bring an action against the Syndicate, in which the truth of this statement would be proved.

I said that this was not a matter on which I could express any opinion. If the scope of the warning had been concealed, it was a point he would have to substantiate by the action which he proposed to bring against the Syndicate.

As far as Grey is personally concerned, it is, no doubt, a very material point, but I never said so to him, as he seems to have told Law.

It seems to me that instead of asking the Foreign Office to furnish him with copies of the correspondence, he should subpœna Spilsbury or the Syndicate to produce the original documents in their possession.

Yours ever,
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 171.

Mr. H. M. Grey to Foreign Office.—(*Received November* 29.)

Primrose Club, Park Place, St. James', London,
Sir, *November* 29, 1898.

I HAVE to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 22nd instant, and regret that Her Majesty's Government does not see fit to demand compensation for the unjustifiable outrages of the Moorish officials upon the "Tourmaline" prisoners.

I should be glad to know if you will favour me with copies of the letters sent by the Foreign Office to the Globe Venture Syndicate, warning them of the illegal character of their proposed enterprise, in order that I may prosecute my action against that Syndicate.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HENRY M. GREY.

No. 172.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 114.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 30, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 154 of the 12th instant respecting the ill-treatment of a British semsar and other British-protected persons by Kaïd Shteewy.

I approve the note which you have addressed to the Grand Vizier on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 173.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 115.)
Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 30, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 153 of the 11th instant, reporting your conversation with the Italian Minister respecting the steps being taken by the Italian Government to obtain the release of an Italian semsar who has been detained in prison at Mazagan.

I approve your having confidentially informed M. de Mahnusi of the measures which were in contemplation by Her Majesty's Government on a recent similar occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 174.

Foreign Office to Howard Association.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November* 30, 1898.

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 3rd September last, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to state that Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Fez has reported to Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier that, according to his information, Shereefian orders have been received by the Governor of the former town for the prisons to be cleaned and whitewashed, and for the prisoners to be supplied with a regular and increased allowance of food.

Mr. Macleod observes that the prisons in Fez are much overcrowded and very dirty, and he considers that if these orders are properly executed, a great improvement will take place.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 175.

Mr. de Reya to Foreign Office.—(Received December 1.)

Dear Sir, 19, *St. Stephen's Road, Bayswater, November* 29, 1898.

MAY I ask you on what ground I am included as one of those who knew, and were implicated, in an illegal expedition on the Sūs Coast. As a matter of fact, Lord Salisbury has made a mistake in saying that I was implicated.

Would you kindly inform me from what source the information came?

Yours, &c.
(Signed) A. DE REYA.

No. 176.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 1.)

(No. 65.)
(Telegraphic.) P. *Tangier, December* 1, 1898.

TRIAL adjourned till 10th April in Spilsbury case.

No. 177.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 2.)

(No. 158.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November* 22, 1898.

THE Attorney-General of Gibraltar informed me yesterday that a telegram had been received by Major Spilsbury stating that the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council had granted permission for an appeal to be lodged on the point whether the trial at Gibraltar should be held before a jury or not.

I am unaware whether it would be possible to hear the appeal in time to proceed with the trial, which is fixed for the 1st December; but should a further adjournment be necessary, I am afraid there will be great difficulty in procuring the attendance of the officers of the "Hassanie," who are the only witnesses the prosecution desires to call.

The "Hassanie" is, at present, engaged in transporting troops to the Riff country; but I have obtained an engagement, which I trust will be kept, that she will be at Gibraltar by the 1st proximo. She is, however, urgently needed to carry provisions and water to the Moorish officials at Cape Juby; and afterwards to take functionaries and workmen to Arksis to make preparations for the opening of that port to general trade.

Her visit to Cape Juby cannot well be postponed as the establishment there, so the Sultan's deputy here tells me, is already in some straits for food and water; and when she is so far south it is, owing to the want of telegraphic communication, impossible to recall her at a short notice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 178.

Foreign Office to Mr. H. M. Grey.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 3, 1898.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, applying for copies of certain letters addressed from this Office to the Globe Venture Syndicate, warning them of the illegal character of their proposed enterprise, in order that you may prosecute your action against that Syndicate.

The originals of any such letters are presumably in the possession of the Syndicate to which they were addressed, and it therefore appears to Lord Salisbury that your proper course will be to address an application to that body through those professional channels which are ordinarily employed on such occasions.

His Lordship would accordingly suggest that you should consult your solicitors as to the means by which discovery and inspection of these documents may be obtained, and their production in Court at the trial of your action, if necessary, be secured.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 179.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 7.)

(No. 159.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November* 23, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 143 of the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to state that the Moorish steamer, the "Hassanie," arrived here with about 500 troops for transport to the Moorish-Algerian frontier. I find that, on the former occasion, the "Hassanie" brought only 900 troops, and not 1,500, as stated in my above-mentioned despatch.

I am informed privately, from the coast, that the French authorities, in view of the occasionally disturbed state of the frontier, requested the Moorish Government to strengthen its posts on the frontier, and that it is in consequence of this request that the military movements have occurred. I am told that the men are practically untrained, and only received rifles on their arrival at Mazagan.

The Minister of War told my informant that the Moorish Government was disinclined to meet the request of the French Government, as the frontier tribes are quiet, and it was but too likely that the arrival of the troops would be the prelude to disturbances, as the tribes would resent the appearance of the Sultan's forces. He considered that such a result was foreseen, and would be welcomed by the Algerian authorities, who would utilize it as a reason for occupying the disturbed districts.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 180.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 7.)

(No. 160.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November* 24, 1898.

FROM information which I have received in regard to affairs in the Riff territory, it would appear that the difficulties in that district are not yet surmounted. The Shereefian expedition has inflicted considerable loss of life and damage of property

on the Bocoyan tribe, which was the perpetrator of the piratical attacks on foreign vessels, but in the prosecution of this task the services of the Beni Ouriagal tribe were enlisted.

The Beni Ouriagal is the tribe which made overtures to the Spanish authorities for Spanish protection, as I reported in my despatch No. 29 of the 8th March, and for their present services to the Moorish Government they were promised a reward of several thousand dollars. Only a small portion of this reward has been paid, and, moreover, the Ouriagal tribesmen found, on their return to their territory, after having materially aided in the punishment of the Bocoyans, that their homesteads had been pillaged and their property destroyed by the portion of the Shereefian troops which had not taken part in the punitive expedition. These proceedings have aroused considerable resentment among the Beni Ouriagal, who threaten to make common cause against the Shereefian troops with those Bocoyans who escaped to the mountains when their territory was attacked.

I regret also to hear that the wives and daughters of the Bocoyans who fell into the hands of the expedition have been sold and distributed among the Sultan's troops.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 181.

Memorandum respecting "Tourmaline" Case.

MR. HENRY GREY called this morning, and, with reference to the Foreign Office letter of the 3rd instant, asked whether he could not be allowed to read the warnings addressed to the Globe Venture Syndicate if he could not be supplied with copies of them.

I took the opportunity of reminding Mr. Grey that, when at our previous interview I had mentioned that warnings had been conveyed to the Globe Venture Syndicate, I had said nothing whatever as to the form in which these warnings had been conveyed, and that, as a matter of fact, when he first spoke of the subject, I was not myself aware whether the warnings were communicated verbally or in writing.

He said that he was under the impression that written communications had passed, and, if this were so, he hoped he might be allowed to read them, in order to be able to form an opinion whether he had valid grounds for bringing an action.

I replied that, admitting for the sake of argument that the warnings had been made in writing, the originals in that case would be in the custody of the Globe Venture Syndicate, and these originals were the papers which would have to be produced in Court.

Mr. Grey said that he had been advised by his solicitors that they could not compel the Globe Venture Syndicate to produce the papers until they had commenced legal proceedings.

He thought he was being harshly treated, and foresaw that he might "fall between two stools." Might he write again after further consultation with his solicitors?

I told him that he could, of course, write whatever he thought advisable, and that his letter would be duly considered.

(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

Foreign Office, December 7, 1898.

No. 182.

Foreign Office to Mr. A. de Reya.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 7, 1898.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury, in reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, to refer you to the terms of the letter addressed to you from this Office on the 22nd ultimo.

That letter was intended to state the grounds on which Lord Salisbury found himself unable to put forward (among others) your claim for compensation from the

Moorish Government for the treatment which you experienced while a prisoner in the hands of the Moorish authorities.

His Lordship must adhere to the decision therein conveyed to you, and has nothing to add to the terms in which it was conveyed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 183.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 9.)

(No. 161.)
My Lord, *Tangier, November* 28, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 152 of the 8th instant, I have the honour to report that the Delegate of the Moorish Government has transmitted to me, for payment to British merchants, the excess export duty paid by the latter on coriander seed up to the 31st December, 1897.

This payment closes the question, as after the above-mentioned date the duty is to be paid at the rate of half-a-dollar per hundredweight.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 184.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 9.)

(No. 162.)
My Lord, *Tangier, December* 1, 1898.

I HAVE been endeavouring to obtain, from different sources, some trustworthy information as to what is occurring in the Tafilet district, as the news which is published in the local press here, and telegraphed to Spanish and other papers abroad, is usually not reliable.

So far as I can gather, the troubles which arose against Muley-er-Rashid in Tafilet have of late quieted down, and, though the situation is not yet peaceful, there appears to be no immediate reason for anticipating a serious revolt against the Sultan's authority.

I am also informed that the reinforcements which were on the way to assist Muley-er-Rashid have been ordered to halt for the present, while the Government is awaiting further information as to the actual state of affairs in Tafilet. The most recent news which has been received is about three weeks old, and no mention was made of any renewal of the disturbances.

There are recurrent rumours of the presence of French emissaries in Tafilet, but I think all such statements should be received with caution. I hear that some three weeks ago a party of about twenty Christians, said to be French, and disguised as Moslems, were seized by the Guallama tribe while endeavouring to smuggle arms across the Algerian frontier, and that they are still in detention, their captors having written to the Sultan to inquire as to what should be done with them. It is surmised that the reported French expedition towards Figuig may be in connection with this incident, if it really occurred.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 185.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 9.)

(No. 164.)
My Lord, *Tangier, December* 1, 1898.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 111 of the 22nd ultimo, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a note which I have addressed to the Grand Vizier in regard to the measures which have been taken against certain of those who were

concerned in the expedition to the Sûs country; and also with respect to the compensation claimed by the Moorish Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 185.

Sir A. Nicolson to Cid Hamed-ben-Moussa.

(After compliments.) *Tangier, December* 1, 1898.

IN the note which your Excellency did me the honour of addressing to me on the 10 Kandeh, 1315 (2nd April, 1898), you mentioned the desire of the Moorish Government to receive some compensations and indemnities on account of the incident which occurred at Arksis in January of this year, and in which a British steamer, the "Tourmaline," and some British subjects were concerned.

You are no doubt aware, oh, friend, that all those concerned in the above-mentioned enterprise who could be prosecuted according to English law have been prosecuted and duly punished. The leader of the expedition has been compelled to leave the British army, and, having been arrested in England, has been sent out to Gibraltar, and is now awaiting his trial before a Court of Justice there. You will see, therefore, oh, friend, that Her Majesty's Government has done all that is possible to meet the ends of justice.

As regards compensations and indemnities, this question has been carefully considered, and I have to inform your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government regret that they are unable to meet the wishes of the Moorish Government in that respect. In all such matters you will understand, oh, intelligent one, that my Government can only be guided by what is legally permitted; and there are no legal means existing in my country which could compel those who were implicated in the expedition to disburse any sums for the above purposes; and, further, my Government is not in a position to apply to Parliament for a vote out of the public funds. You doubtless know, oh, friend, that the Government can only disburse those public moneys which have been voted by the Representatives of the nation.

I would take this opportunity of drawing your Excellency's attention, as I have done previously in a private manner, to the ill-treatment to which Kaïd Gilooly subjected the British subjects whom he captured. They were, as I have already communicated to you, chained by the neck and feet at nights, fed with insufficient food, crowded into tents or huts with other prisoners so that they could not take necessary repose, or even maintain necessary cleanliness, and frequently subjected to insults and scorn. This treatment lasted for the first three weeks, that is, until the orders arrived from your Excellency to treat them with consideration.

I am well aware, oh, friend, that you desired the prisoners should be kindly treated; and I am sure you will enable me to report to my Government that the Moorish Government regret that their wishes were not anticipated by Kaïd Gilooly, and that that officer will be severely censured for the harsh manner in which he treated those whom he had captured. I should be glad to receive such an assurance from your Excellency, as is but just.

And may you rest, &c.

(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 186.

Foreign Office to Mr. H. Weber.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 10, 1898.

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of the 21st ultimo, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to inform you that a despatch has been received from Her Majesty's Minister at Tangier, suggesting that you should communicate direct with him as to the districts of Morocco in which you desire to travel. He would then be happy to give you all the information in his power.

Sir A. Nicolson is of opinion that it is safe to travel over the beaten tracks and

to make the tours which Messrs. Cook's Agency now arrange for their clients; but there are certain parts which it would hardly be prudent for a foreigner to visit, and there are others which are in a disturbed condition at present.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

No. 187.

Mr. H. M. Grey to Foreign Office.—(*Received December* 12.)

Sir, *Primrose Club, Park Place, St. James', London, December* 9, 1898.

IN response to your communication of the 3rd, I have to point out to you that I am unable to obtain an order for the discovery of documents until there is an action before the Court, and that action has reached a certain stage.

The papers are at present before my solicitor, but he desires some information as to the contents of the communications addressed by the Foreign Office to the Globe Venture Syndicate before he can advise me that I have a good ground of action against the Syndicate at all.

Under these circumstances, I trust you will see your way to furnishing me with the desired information in order that I may obtain legal satisfaction.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HENRY M. GREY.

No. 188.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 120.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 14, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 161 of the 28th ultimo, reporting the repayment by the Moorish Government of the excess duty levied on coriander seed exported by British merchants up to the 31st December, 1897. I have to express my satisfaction at the result which has attended your efforts to bring this matter to a successful termination.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 189.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 122.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 16, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 164 of the 1st instant, inclosing a copy of the note in which you have informed the Grand Vizier of the measures taken against some of the persons concerned in the expedition to the Sûs country, and of the views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the claim for compensation put forward by the Moorish Goverment in connection with that expedition, and in which you have at the same time pointed out to his Excellency the steps which it is expected the Moorish Government will take in reparation for the harsh treatment of the prisoners by Kaïd Gilooly.

The terms of the note addressed by you to the Grand Vizier have my approval.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 190.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 19.)

(No. 165.)
My Lord, *Tangier, December 3, 1898.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 157 of the 17th November, I have the honour to report that the Italian Minister informed me to-day that the Italian-protected person, in regard to whose arrest an Italian man-of-war had recently visited the Moorish waters, had been set at liberty. M. de Malmusi said that he had reserved the question of an indemnity for further inquiry.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 191.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 19.)

(No. 166.)
My Lord, *Tangier, December 8, 1898.*

FROM information which I have received from a fairly trustworthy source at Fez, it would appear that considerable excitement has been caused in the neighbourhood of Figuig by the report that a French expedition was on its way thither, and that summonses had been issued to various tribes to be ready to resist the invaders. I am told, however, by another informant, that the expedition will not pass through the Figuig district, but take another route for the Touat Oasis, the occupation of which is its objective.

I do not know if any such projects are about to be undertaken, but the latest news I have received from the Court inform me that the Grand Vizier is perturbed at possible French action, and inquired of my informant whether an appeal to some of the Great Powers would be likely to meet with a favourable reception, and whether they would be disposed to take some notice of the matter. My informant gave an evasive reply, and I doubt if the Grand Vizier will moot the question in the manner he indicated. The Sultan's deputy here is without any knowledge of what is occurring near the Algerian frontier, and is equally deficient in news from Tafilet.

The French local paper here has published a denial of the report that any expedition is proceeding to Figuig, and states that the Minister of War has given explanations in regard to the column, which is manœuvring in the southern portion of the Province of Constantine.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 192.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 19.)

(No. 167.)
My Lord, *Tangier, December 9, 1898.*

I AM privately informed from the Court that the Moorish Government is desirous of sending Ben Saïd, the Governor of Sallee, on a special Mission to Paris, but that the French Government has stated that it will not receive a Moorish Envoy until a written denial is given by the Grand Vizier to a report which appeared in the Spanish press to the effect that the Bocoyan tribe in the Riff were punished on account of their having requested and obtained French protection.

The Grand Vizier said he was willing to give a written statement that the Bocoyans had been punished on account of their acts of piracy and general insubordination against the Moorish Government; but the French Agent at the Court declined to accept anything less than the specific denial he had been commissioned to request. The matter rests there for the present.

I am also given to understand that the Moorish Government has not abandoned

the idea of sending a Mission to England; but I would propose not to move in this matter until some definite proposal is made. Should a Mission be sent eventually to France, I do not know if your Lordship would wish me to initiate a suggestion that it should also visit London.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 193.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 19.)

(No. 169.)
My Lord, *Tangier, December 13, 1898.*

WITH reference to my despatch No. 160 of the 24th ultimo, I hear from the British Vice-Consul at Tetuan that recent arrivals from the Riff territory report that all is now quiet in that locality, and that the Shereefian troops have ceased from active movements. The differences between the latter and the Beni Ouriagl tribe seem to be in a fair way to settlement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

No. 194.

Foreign Office to the Law Officers of the Crown.

Gentlemen, *Foreign Office, December 23, 1898.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you, by direction of the Marquess of Salisbury, copies of the correspondence noted in the accompanying list relative to a request received from Mr. Henry Grey, to be furnished with copies of certain documents which are in the possession of the Foreign Office, or failing that to be allowed at least to have access to them.

Mr. Grey was a member of the expedition dispatched in the course of last year to the Sûs districts of Morocco, under the auspices of the Globe Venture Syndicate, an account of whose proceedings was contained in the letter addressed to you from this Office on the 25th May last (Paper J), and having on that occasion landed in Morocco, and been arrested by the soldiers of the Sultan, he was eventually brought to Tangier, tried in the Consular Court on a charge of smuggling, and sentenced to a term of imprisonment.

On the receipt of Mr. Grey's first application (Papers A, B, C, and H) to be furnished with copies of the letters sent to the Globe Venture Syndicate, warning them of the illegal character of the enterprise, he was informed (Paper D) that the originals of any such letters were presumably in the possession of the Syndicate, and that he should consult his solicitors as to the means by which discovery and inspection of those documents might be obtained, and their production at the trial of his action, if necessary, be secured.

Mr. Grey has, however, since explained (Papers E, F, and G) that it is with a view to arriving at a decision as to whether he has good ground of action against the Syndicate, no action having as yet been begun, that he desires to have copies of the warnings sent to them, or, if that is not possible, to be allowed to read them.

I am, accordingly, to request that you will take the papers into your consideration, and favour Lord Salisbury with your opinion as to what answer should be returned to Mr. Grey.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

List of Papers.

(A.) Minutes, November 23–28, 1898, on Mr. Grey's personal application.
(B.) Sir M. Gosselin to Sir T. Sanderson .. .. November 27, 1898.
(C.) Mr. H. Grey .. .. November 29, „
(D.) To Mr. Grey .. .. December 3, „
(E.) Record of conversation with Mr. Grey by Sir M. Gosselin .. .. December 7, „
(F.) Mr. H. Grey .. .. December 9, „
(G.) Minutes, December 9–14, 1898, on Mr. Grey's letter (F).
(H.) Revise with correspondence with Globe Venture Syndicate and Major Spilsbury, referred to in Paper (A) marked.
(J.) Law Officer's Report of June 8, 1898, on Globe Venture Syndicate case.

No. 195.

Sir A. Nicolson to the Marquess of Salisbury.— (Received December 24.)

(No. 170.)

My Lord, *Tangier, December* 14, 1898.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 74 of the 28th May last, I have the honour to transmit copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Consul Maclean relative to the claims of British merchants on account of the disturbance in the M'zab district in 1896. I am afraid there will be considerable difficulty in inducing the Moorish Government to settle the claims in full, as the total amount for all nationalities must be large. I will ascertain from my colleagues their views as to the offer made by the Moorish Government for a composition on the basis of 75 per cent., payable within a year.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. NICOLSON.

Inclosure in No. 195.

Consul Maclean to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 135.)

Sir, *Dar-al-Baida, December* 10, 1898.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 73 of the 23rd ultimo, on the M'zab question, I find that my French and German colleagues are working upon the same lines as myself, and the former has assured me that he is in perfect agreement with me.

The instructions of the Governor of Dar-al-Baida do not allow of his settling the claims in full. His Excellency invited the claimants to make a reduction, and on their refusing to do so he offered a settlement of 75 per cent. payment to be spread over a year.

I personally visited the Governor, and asked him whether the proposed reduction was founded on any inaccuracy in the claims.

He emphatically negatived such a suggestion, and expressed himself as perfectly satisfied with the *bona fides* of the British claimants and their claims.

I demonstrated to his Excellency that under these circumstances there were no grounds for reducing the claimants' demands, and I invited him in vain to discuss each item. I told him that before presenting them I had taken great pains to sift them, that I had resisted suggestions to add to their amounts, so as to leave something to give away in the negotiations for their settlement, and I pointed out that the misfortunes from which the claims arose were not the fault of the merchants, that their capital involved had been locked up for two years, and that under all these circumstances it was impossible for me to feel justified in urging the persons concerned to accept his offer.

Further, I felt convinced that his Excellency's Government, which has admitted responsibility, desired to make a just settlement, and did not wish to beat down good claims.

The Governor answered that although British claims were just, there were

others which were absurd, and that the same settlement he made with the British would be expected by all others.

I told him that I could not admit that this was a reasonable argument, as each case should be judged on its own merits.

His Excellency then drew a small circle inside a larger one on the back of his hand, and said that the big circle represented the aggregate of the claims, and it was his duty to pare it down to the dimensions of the smaller one.

Those, no doubt, are his orders.

At my request, his Excellency promised to inform his Government that the claimants would not accept the proposed settlement, and I told him I would report the same to your Excellency.

The Governor was particularly polite and amiable throughout our interview. He was very persuasive, but admitted that he considered my views, as representing British claimants, a just one.

I confess that if he had asked for a smaller reduction I should have been inclined to advise merchants to accept, providing the time for payment was spread over three months instead of a year.

Still, I believe that even under these conditions the merchants would be serious losers, for the following reasons: their capital has been imprisoned for over two years, their business has been stopped during that time, and the dollar has decreased about 20 per cent. in value. It is not just that they should be losers.

I refrain from making any observations concerning the claims presented by the subjects of other nationalities, but I feel confident that my French and German colleagues would be as careful as myself in not putting forward anything which would not bear examination.

I should, perhaps, mention that my account of my interview with the Governor is an accurate summary of our conversation, which was lengthy, and not always to the point.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ALLAN MACLEAN.

No. 196.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir A. Nicolson.

(No. 124.)

Sir, *Foreign Office, December* 24, 1898.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 167 of the 9th instant as to the desire of the Moorish Government to send Missions to France and to this country.

In reply to your request for instructions as to the language which you should hold on the subject, I have to inform you that it would not, in my opinion, be desirable that you should raise the question of a Mission to this country, or that, if it is decided to dispatch a Mission to France, you should initiate any suggestion that it should visit London. In the event of such a proposal being made, you are authorized to say that you will refer it to Her Majesty's Government, but that you have no doubt that the Mission would be welcomed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.